



New York Farm Bureau

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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Assembly Bill 3954B (Assemblymember Thiele)/ Senate Bill 549B (Senator Sanders)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS LAW AND THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LAW, IN RELATION TO LOCALLY GROWN FARM AND FOOD PRODUCTS AND CODIFYING THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON FOOD POLICY

Date: 2/15/2022

New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest agricultural advocacy organization, would like to express its support for this legislation. This legislation would establish the New York State council on food policy which would develop and make recommendations regarding state food policies.

It is critical that improvements are made to the state's food-related policies so that more communities can have access to New York grown food. It is important that this council has the ability to make recommendations regarding the procurement of more New York farm products and actively identify barriers to the development of the farm and food economy. Farmers play an active role in the producing, processing, and transporting of New York grown food. It is essential that steps are taken to find solutions for issues in the food supply chain, including limited processing options, so that New York farmers can continue to provide nutritional food for New York communities.

In the interest of supporting New York's family farms and improving access to New York grown food across the state, New York Farm Bureau respectfully requests your support of this legislation.