

## **New York Farm Bureau**

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## MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Assembly Bill 9259 (Assemblymember Lupardo)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS LAW, IN RELATION TO THE DEFINITIONS OF SURPLUS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND PROCESSED PRODUCTS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE NOURISH NEW YORK PROGRAM

Date: 4/19/2024

New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest general farm organization, would like to express its support for this legislation. This bill would add whole or 2% fat milk to the definition of surplus agricultural products and processed products for the Nourish New York program.

Through Nourish New York, food banks have distributed millions of pounds of food while also supporting New York farms. This program is a win for both New Yorkers who are food insecure and for giving farmers a market for their goods. Currently, whole milk and 2% fat milk are not included as eligible products for the program. This legislation would add these products as eligible for the Nourish New York program and ensure that food banks can make these nutritious farm products available to communities across the state.

For these reasons, New York Farm Bureau respectfully requests your support of this legislation.