

December 8, 2011

Dear Members of Congress:

We the undersigned fully endorse the Local Farms, Food, and Jobs Act (S. 1773, H.R. 3286) that was introduced on Tuesday, November 1 by Sen. Sherrod Brown of Ohio and Rep. Chellie Pingree of Maine, along with 35 original co-sponsors.

The legislation helps farmers and ranchers by addressing production, aggregation, processing, marketing, and distribution needs to access growing local and regional food markets. The bill also assists consumers by improving access to healthy food. The measure provides secure farm bill funding for critically important programs that support family farms, expand new farming opportunities, create rural jobs, and invest in the local food and agriculture economy. We urge you to support this comprehensive bill that will improve upon existing farm programs to effectively foster local and regional food system development.

Arkansas

ARDWG - Sustainable Agri Group
Delta Land & Community

California

California Farmers Union
CCOF
Center for Land-Based Learning
Center for Race, Poverty, and the Environment
Classic Organic
Community Alliance with Family Farmers
Crane Creek Growers
Mar Vista Farmers Market
Organic Farming Research Foundation
Pesticide Action Network

Connecticut

Northeast Organic Farming Association of Connecticut
Wholesome Wave

District of Columbia

Columbia Heights Community Marketplace
Environmental Working Group
ISED - Institute for Social & Economic Development
National Association of Development Organizations (NADO)
National Farmers Union
National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition

Florida

AGvocracy, LLC.
Florida Certified Organic Growers & Consumers, Inc (FOG)
Slow Food First Coast
Slow Food Glades to Coast

Georgia

Environment Georgia
Georgia Organics

Iowa

Food Democracy Now!
Iowa Environmental Council
Leopold Group, Southeast Iowa chapter of Iowa Sierra Club
Local Harvest CSA
National Catholic Rural Life Conference
Practical Farmers of Iowa
Women, Food and Agriculture Network

Illinois

Angelic Organics Learning Center
Central Illinois Farm Beginnings
Chicago Botanic Garden
Chicago Honey Co-op
Downtown Bloomington Farmers' Market
Edible Economy Project
Evanston Food Council
Food Animal Concerns Trust
Food Works
Glenwood Sunday Market
Good Earth Food Alliance LLC
Illinois Farmers Market Network
Illinois Organic Growers Association
Illinois Stewardship Alliance
North Central Illinois Farmer Network
The Land Connection

Kansas

Kansas Rural Center

Maine

Belfast Co-op
Coastal Enterprises, Inc
Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association
Maine Sustainable Agriculture Society
Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community
Somerset Grist Mill Crossroads

Maryland

Crossroads Community Food Network
Izaak Walton League of America
Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future
Montgomery Countryside Alliance
Recycled Cities
Future Harvest CASA

Massachusetts

Berkshire Co-op
Berkshire Grown
Boston Area Gleaners
Cambridge Farmers Market

Equity Trust, Inc.
Farm Aid
Field to Table
Franklin County Community Development Corporation
Lutheran Social Service of New England
New Entry Sustainable Farming Project
Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance
Northeast Organic Farming Association of Massachusetts
Old Rochester Farmers' Market
Real Pickles
Rural Votes
Slow Food Boston
Slow Food Martha's Vineyard
The Carrot Project
The Lost Arts Collaborative / Captain Pollard's Flintlock Farm
Union of Concerned Scientists

Michigan

Food System Economic Partnership
Michigan Food and Farming Systems
Michigan Land Use Institute
Northwest Michigan Council of Governments
Northwest Michigan Food & Farming Network
Skinny Farm of Scio
Slow Food Huron Valley

Minnesota

Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
Land Stewardship Project
Renewing the Countryside

Mississippi

Rainbow Natural Grocery Cooperative

Missouri

Catholic Charities of Kansas City- St. Joseph

Montana

National Center for Appropriate Technology

Nebraska

Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society

New Hampshire

Concord Cooperative Market
Granite State Fish
Manchester Food Co-op
New Hampshire Association of Conservation Districts
Sea Coast Eat Local

New Jersey

Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey

New Mexico

New Mexico Acequia Association
Taos County Economic Development Corp

New York

Abundance Cooperative Market
CUNY Food Studies Collective
Fresh Start Market
Hawthorn Valley Farm
Hunger Action Network of NYS
Just Food
National Organic Coalition
National Young Farmers' Coalition
NOFA Interstate Council
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York
Slow Food USA
Small Scale Food Processors Association of New York
SNAP Gardens

North Carolina

Carolina Farm Stewardship Organization
Eastern Carolina Organics
Northeast Pasture Consortium
RAFI-USA
Tidal Creek Cooperative Food Market

Ohio

Ohio Ecological Food & Farm Association
Ohio Environmental Council

Oregon

Adelante Mujeres
Community Food Security Coalition
Friends of Family Farmers
Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides
Oregon Tilth
Rogue Farm Corps
Silverton Health
Thrive

Pennsylvania

Fay-Penn Economic Development Council
Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture
The Food Trust

Rhode Island

Farm Fresh Rhode Island

Texas

CASA Del Llano
Sustainable Food Center

Texas A&M Health Science Center: College of Medicine: Holistic Medical Society
Texas Mexico Border Coalition CBO

Vermont

Hanover Consumer Cooperative Society
Intervale Community Farm
New England Farmers Union
Organic Trade Association
Putney Food Co-op
Quaker Earthcare Witness
Upper Valley Food Co-op
Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund
Vermont Vegetable and Berry Growers

Virginia

Appalachian Sustainable Development
Farmers Market Coalition
Virginia Association for Biological Farming

Washington

Seattle Farmers Market Association
Washington State Farmers Market Association
Washington Sustainable Food & Farming Network

Wisconsin

Crawford Stewardship Project
Family Farm Defenders
Madison Area CSA Coalition
Michael Fields Agricultural Institute
Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College
Organic Valley
REAP Food Group
Sustain Rural Wisconsin Network
The Cornucopia Institute
The CSA Coalition
Valley Stewardship Network
Wisconsin Local Food Network