



2009 ASSEMBLY BILL 746

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 15.137 (3), 20.115 (3) (at), 20.115 (4) (as) and 93.49 of the
2 statutes; **relating to:** promoting the use of locally grown food in school meals
3 and snacks and granting rule-making authority.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

4 **SECTION 1.** 15.137 (3) of the statutes is created to read:
5 15.137 **(3)** FARM TO SCHOOL COUNCIL. (a) There is created in the department of
6 agriculture, trade and consumer protection a farm to school council.
7 (b) The secretary of agriculture, trade and consumer protection shall appoint
8 to the council an employee of the department and shall appoint farmers, experts in
9 child health, school food service personnel, and other persons with interests in
10 agriculture, nutrition, and education.

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SECTION 1

1 (c) The secretary of health services shall appoint to the council an employee of
2 the department of health services.

3 (d) The superintendent of public instruction shall appoint to the council an
4 employee of the department of public instruction.

5 **SECTION 2.** 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert
6 the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

7 **2009-10** **2010-11**

8 **20.115 Agriculture, trade and consumer**
9 **protection, department of**

10 (3) AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

11 (at) Farm to school program adminis-
12 tration GPR A -0- -0-

13 (4) AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE

14 (as) Farm to school grants GPR A -0- -0-

15 **SECTION 2m.** 20.115 (3) (at) of the statutes is created to read:

16 20.115 (3) (at) *Farm to school program administration.* The amounts in the
17 schedule for promotion of farm to school programs under s. 93.49.

18 **SECTION 3.** 20.115 (4) (as) of the statutes is created to read:

19 20.115 (4) (as) *Farm to school grants.* The amounts in the schedule for farm
20 to school grants under s. 93.49 (3).

21 **SECTION 5.** 93.49 of the statutes is created to read:

22 **93.49 Farm to school programs. (1) DEFINITION.** In this section, “farm to
23 school program” means a program to connect schools with nearby farms to provide
24 children with locally produced fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products, and other

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1 nutritious, locally produced foods in school breakfasts, lunches, and snacks; help
2 children develop healthy eating habits; provide nutritional and agricultural
3 education; and improve farmers' incomes and direct access to markets.

4 **(2) DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES.** (a) The department shall promote farm to
5 school programs. The department shall encourage schools, as part of farm to school
6 programs, to purchase food produced in this state and to provide nutritional and
7 agricultural education, including farm visits, cooking demonstrations, and
8 composting and gardening at schools.

9 (b) The department shall do all of the following in carrying out its
10 responsibilities under par. (a):

11 1. Identify impediments to providing locally produced fresh fruits and
12 vegetables, dairy products, and other nutritious, locally produced foods in school
13 breakfasts, lunches, and snacks and seek to reduce those impediments.

14 2. Advise other state agencies and local agencies on actions to promote farm to
15 school programs and coordinate the department's activities under this subsection
16 with related activities of other state agencies, including the department of public
17 instruction and the department of health services, local agencies, and nonprofit
18 organizations.

19 3. Promote communications between local farmers and schools and sales of food
20 from local farmers to schools.

21 4. Conduct training and provide technical assistance for school food service
22 personnel and managers, farmers, and food distributors and processors concerning
23 farm to school programs and food safety and procurement.

24 5. Promote farm to school programs through a public education campaign.

25 6. Provide information on its Internet site concerning farm to school programs.

ASSEMBLY BILL 746**SECTION 5**

1 7. Consult with the farm to school council and other interested persons.

2 **(3) GRANT PROGRAM.** (a) From the appropriation under s. 20.115 (4) (as), the
3 department shall provide grants to school districts, in coordination with the
4 department of public instruction, and to nonprofit organizations, farmers, and any
5 other entities for the creation and expansion of farm to school programs. The
6 department shall give preference to proposals that are innovative or that provide
7 models that other school districts can adopt.

8 (b) The department may provide funding under this subsection for projects that
9 do any of the following:

10 1. Create, expand, diversify, or promote production, processing, marketing, and
11 distribution of food produced in this state for sale to schools in this state.

12 2. Create, expand, or renovate facilities, including purchases of equipment for
13 the facilities, that would ensure the use of food produced in this state in schools in
14 this state.

15 3. Provide, expand, or promote training for food service personnel, farmers, and
16 distributors.

17 4. Provide, expand, or promote nutritional and agricultural education in the
18 classroom.

19 (c) The department shall consult with the farm to school council and other
20 interested persons to establish grant priorities for each fiscal year.

21 **(4) RULES.** The department shall promulgate rules for the administration of
22 this section.

23 **(5) REPORTS.** At least annually, the farm to school council shall report to the
24 legislature under s. 13.172 (2) and to the secretary on the needs and opportunities
25 for farm to school programs.

