

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1775

A RESOLUTION urging the United States Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service to accept Kansas' plea to expand the Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program to include proteins.

WHEREAS, The Kansas Department of Health and Environment participates in the Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program, which uses federal funding to provide low-income seniors with resources in the form of fresh, nutritious, unprepared, locally grown fruits, vegetables, herbs and honey from farmers markets, roadside stands and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs; and

WHEREAS, Coupon redemption rates in Kansas have traditionally been low compared to other states; and

WHEREAS, Twelve percent of senior males and 24% of senior females eat significantly less protein than recommended; and

WHEREAS, Kansas has a strong tradition of an agricultural-based economy, and the agricultural sector employs 13% of the state's workforce; and

WHEREAS, Beef cattle ranching and farming, including feedlots and dual-purpose ranching and farming, is the top employer in the agriculture industry, with more than 42,000 employees in Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Purchases of locally sourced proteins, including unprepared meats and eggs, can support the local economy, farmers, farmers markets, roadside stands and CSA programs, thus reducing the number of "food miles" those commodities must travel to reach the end consumer; and

WHEREAS, The Kansas Department of Health and Environment can encourage education to low-income seniors about how to select, store and prepare local proteins: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we urge the United States Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service to consider and accept Kansas' plea to expand the Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program to include the addition of proteins to improve the program and to stimulate the growth of the Kansas agricultural sector; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send five enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator Tyson.

Senate Resolution No. 1775 was sponsored by Senators Tyson, Alley, Baumgardner, Berger, Billinger, Bollier, Bowers, Denning, Doll, Estes, Faust-Goudeau, Fitzgerald, Givens, Goddard, Haley, Hawk, Hensley, Hilderbrand, Holland, Kelly, Kerschen, Lynn, McGinn, Petersen, Pettey, V. Schmidt, Skubal, Suellentrop, Sykes, Taylor, Wagle and Wilborn.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*