



1 expanded in Louisiana and have become more available for many Louisiana citizens,  
2 providing both a source of fresh nutritious foods and a market for the farmers of these more  
3 nutritious products; and

4 WHEREAS, as of 2012, more than twenty states were offering the option of spending  
5 WIC vouchers at farmers' markets operating within those states; and

6 WHEREAS, direct marketing of farm products through farmers' markets continues  
7 to be an important sales outlet for agricultural producers nationwide and Louisiana continues  
8 to expand access to farmers' markets throughout the state; and

9 WHEREAS, while these markets have continued to grow in popularity primarily due  
10 to the growing consumer interest in obtaining fresh products directly from the farm, it  
11 follows logically that WIC participants would have the same interest in the availability of  
12 fresh food products direct from the farm.

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
14 direct the Department of Health and Hospitals to submit a state plan amendment to the  
15 United States Department of Agriculture for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program  
16 for Women, Infants, and Children to provide for the use of WIC cash value vouchers at  
17 farmers' markets.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
19 secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals.

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The original instrument was prepared by Mary Dozier O'Brien. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Christopher D. Adams.

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#### DIGEST

Heitmeier

SCR No. 20

Directs DHH to submit a state plan amendment to the WIC program, to provide for participation of Louisiana farmers in the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, in which farmers agree to accept vouchers from participants in the WIC program for fresh, nutritious, locally-grown foods.

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

##### Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill

1. Directs DHH to submit a state plan amendment to the United States Department of Agriculture, instead of Medicaid, to permit the use of WIC cash value vouchers at farmers' markets.