

1 **FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM**

2 2022 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Stephen G. Handy**

5 Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill enacts provisions to codify Utah's farm to school program.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11 This bill:

- 12 ▶ defines terms;
- 13 ▶ creates the Utah Farm to Fork Commission (commission);
- 14 ▶ provides the membership and duties of the commission;
- 15 ▶ allows the commission to establish or coordinate with a task force to fulfill the
- 16 commission's duties; and
- 17 ▶ requires the commission to administer a grant program to provide grants to schools,
- 18 childcare centers, nonprofit organizations, and farmers to establish or expand farm
- 19 to school programs.

20 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

21 None

22 **Other Special Clauses:**

23 None

24 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

25 ENACTS:

26 **63C-25-101**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

27 **63C-25-201**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



28 [63C-25-202](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953

29 [63C-25-301](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953



31 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

32 Section 1. Section **63C-25-101** is enacted to read:

33 **CHAPTER 25. UTAH FARM TO FORK COMMISSION**

34 **Part 1. General Provisions**

35 **63C-25-101. Definitions.**

36 (1) "Childcare" center means a licensed childcare center that participates in a federal  
37 program that provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks to eligible children who  
38 are enrolled for care at participating childcare centers.

39 (2) "Commission" means the Utah Farm to Fork Commission created in Section  
40 [63C-25-201](#).

41 (3) "School" means any accredited K-12 school in the state.

42 (4) "Statewide farm to school strategic plan" means statewide plan to connect schools  
43 with nearby farms to:

44 (a) provide children with locally produced fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products,  
45 and other nutritious, locally produced foods in school breakfasts, lunches, and snacks;

46 (b) help children develop healthy eating habits;

47 (c) provide nutritional and agricultural education; and

48 (d) improve farmers' incomes and direct access to markets.

49 Section 2. Section **63C-25-201** is enacted to read:

50 **Part 2. Commission Duties**

51 **63C-25-201. Utah Farm to Fork Commission.**

52 (1) There is created the Utah Farm to Fork Commission.

53 (2) The commission consists of the following three members:

54 (a) the executive director of the Department of Health or the executive director's  
55 designee from among Department of Health employees;

56 (b) the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Food or the commissioner's  
57 designee from among Department of Agriculture and Food employees; and

58 (c) the state superintendent of public instruction appointed under Section [53E-3-301](#) or

59 the state superintendent's designee from among State Board of Education employees.

60 (3) A commission member may not receive salary or expenses for the member's service  
61 on the commission other than the existing salary and benefits related to the member's state  
62 employment.

63 (4) (a) A majority of the commission members constitutes a quorum.

64 (b) The action of a majority of a quorum constitutes an action of the commission.

65 (5) The Department of Health, the Department of Agriculture and Food, and the State  
66 Board of Education shall:

67 (a) provide one full-time employee each:

68 (i) to oversee each entity's participation in the statewide farm to school strategic plan;

69 and

70 (ii) for whom the employee's duties under Subsection (5)(a) represent at least half of  
71 the employee's overall job duties; and

72 (b) jointly provide staff support to the commission.

73 Section 3. Section **63C-25-202** is enacted to read:

74 **63C-25-202. Commission duties.**

75 (1) The commission shall:

76 (a) identify impediments to providing locally produced fresh fruits and vegetables,  
77 dairy products, and other nutritious, locally produced foods in school breakfasts, lunches, and  
78 snacks and seek to reduce those impediments;

79 (b) advise other state agencies and local agencies on actions to promote farm to school  
80 programs;

81 (c) promote communications between local farmers and schools and childcare centers  
82 and sales of food from local farmers to schools and childcare centers;

83 (d) develop a statewide farm to school strategic plan;

84 (e) maintain a farm to school knowledge base, including a database of producers,  
85 school gardens, and other relevant resources;

86 (f) host training or conference events for:

87 (i) school food service personnel and managers, farmers, and food distributors and  
88 processors concerning farm to school programs and food safety and procurement; and

89 (ii) knowledge and resources to farmers regarding sales within the farm to school

90 strategic plan;

91 (g) establish a promotional program that provides educational resources for  
92 classrooms, cafeterias, and gardens that showcase Utah-grown foods;

93 (h) provide information on a website concerning the statewide farm to school strategic  
94 plan; and

95 (i) administer grants under Section [63C-25-301](#).

96 (2) The commission may establish or coordinate with a task force to fulfill the duties  
97 described in this section.

98 Section 4. Section **63C-25-301** is enacted to read:

99 **Part 3. Farm to Fork Grant Program**

100 **63C-25-301. Farm to fork grant program.**

101 (1) Subject to legislative appropriations, the commission shall provide grants to  
102 schools and childcare centers, in coordination with the State Board of Education, and to  
103 nonprofit organizations and farmers for the creation and expansion of farm to school programs.

104 (2) The commission shall award a grant described in this section to a grant recipient  
105 that submits to the commission a completed application, as provided by the commission, giving  
106 preference to proposals that are innovative or that provide models that other schools and  
107 childcare centers, nonprofit organizations, and farmers can adopt.

108 (3) A recipient of a grant under Subsection (1) may use the grant for projects that:

109 (a) create, expand, diversify, or promote production, processing, marketing, and  
110 distribution of locally produced food for sale to local schools and childcare centers;

111 (b) create, expand, or renovate facilities, including purchases of equipment for the  
112 facilities, that would ensure the use of locally produced food in local schools and childcare  
113 centers;

114 (c) provide, expand, or promote training for food service personnel, farmers, and  
115 distributors; and

116 (d) provide, expand, or promote nutritional and agricultural education in the classroom.

117 (4) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the  
118 commission shall make rules to establish:

119 (a) required elements of the grant application and project description; and

120 (b) a formula to determine a grant recipient's grant amount under this section.

121           (5) The commission shall:

122           (a) consult with the Department of Agriculture and Food, Department of Health, and  
123 State Board of Education to establish grant priorities for each fiscal year; and

124           (b) annually report regarding the administration and outcomes of the grants described  
125 in this section to:

126           (i) the Department of Agriculture and Food, Department of Health, and State Board of  
127 Education; and

128           (ii) before the November interim meeting, the Education Interim Committee.