

H.725

An act relating to farmers' markets

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 6 V.S.A. chapter 216 is added to read:

CHAPTER 216. FARMERS' MARKETS

§ 5001. DEFINITION

In this chapter, "farmers' market" shall mean an event or series of events at which two or more vendors of agricultural products, as defined in 11 V.S.A. § 991, gather for purposes of offering for sale to the public their agricultural products.

§ 5002. VERMONT FARMERS' MARKET ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP

(a) Farmers' markets in this state that meet the minimum standards and best practices set forth in subsection (b) of this section may become members of the Vermont Farmers' Market Association.

(b) The Vermont Farmers' Market Association shall:

(1) develop minimum standards and best practices for the management and use of farmers' markets in this state and shall submit them to the agency of agriculture, food and markets for recommendations; and

(2) extend memberships to farmers' markets that meet the standards and best practices established under subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(3) prepare an annual report of its activities, including a financial statement, and make the report available to the agency of agriculture, food and markets and other interested parties no later than April 1 of each year.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2010.