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H.725

Introduced by Representatives Stevens of Shoreham, Ainsworth of Royalton,
Bray of New Haven, Browning of Arlington, Conquest of
Newbury, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lewis of Derby, Malcolm of
Pawlet, Martin of Wolcott, Masland of Thetford, McAllister of
Highgate, McNeil of Rutland Town, Taylor of Barre City, Toll
of Danville, Wheeler of Derby, Wilson of Manchester and
Zuckerman of Burlington

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Agriculture; farmers' markets

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to define the term "farmers' market"
and to authorize the Vermont Farmers' Market Association to develop
minimum standards and best practices for farmers' market operations in this
state seeking to become members of the Vermont Farmers' Market
Association.

An act relating to farmers' markets

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

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

2 CHAPTER 216. FARMERS' MARKETS

3 § 5001. DEFINITION

4 In this chapter, "farmers' market" shall mean an event or series of events at
5 which two or more vendors of agricultural products, as defined in 11 V.S.A.
6 § 991, gather for purposes of offering for sale to the public their agricultural
7 products.

8 § 5002. VERMONT FARMERS' MARKET ASSOCIATION

9 MEMBERSHIP

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

13 (b) The Vermont Farmers' Market Association shall:

14 (1) develop minimum standards and best practices for the management
15 and use of farmers' markets in this state, together with and subject to the
16 approval of the agency of agriculture, food and markets; and

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

19 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

20 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2010.

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;

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

(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 ~~February~~ April 1 of each year.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2010.

This act shall take effect upon passage.