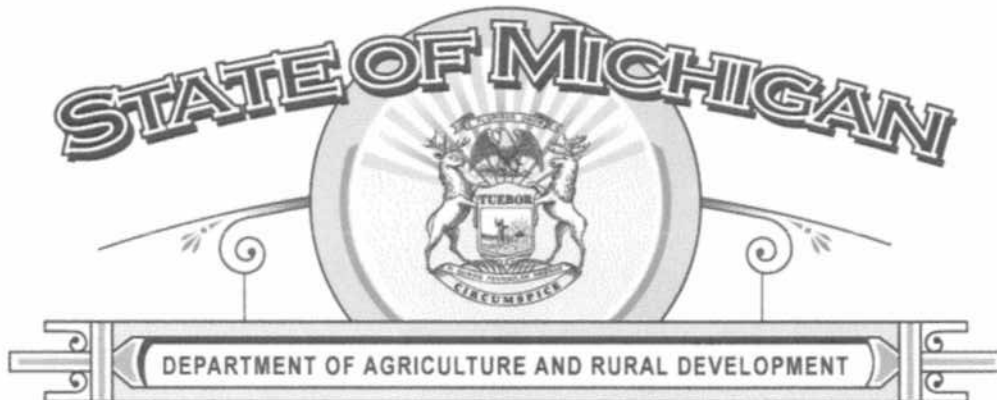


STATE OF MICHIGAN



MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF

NATIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH

WHEREAS, Michigan producers offer an abundance of high quality crops, meats, and dairy products placing Michigan second only to California in agricultural diversity and making our state a major contributor to the local foods movement; and,

WHEREAS, local food is fresher, tastes better and comes from farmland near you, and, because many fruits and vegetables can lose up to 50 percent of their nutrients in just five days' time, buying Michigan locally grown food is a healthier choice; and,

WHEREAS, by cultivating the relationships between farmers and Michigan schools, universities, and other institutions, we encourage diverse and healthy meal offerings and new economic opportunities for our growing agriculture sector; and,

WHEREAS, Farm to School programs should be recognized as a proven effective strategy that provide immediate and long-term benefits to child health, agricultural producer income, and community economic development; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development supports the National Farm to School Month of October 2011; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it further resolved that we encourage food service directors and food buyers to seek out locally grown and processed foods and incorporate into their menu offerings in school meals; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it further resolved that we encourage schools, farmers and farm groups, local businesses, nonprofit institutions, churches, cities, state government, and other local groups to support and participate in Farm to School efforts in their communities.

Adopted, September 14, 2011
Lansing, Michigan



Don Coe
Commission Chair