

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 18

BY BOLKCOM

1 A Resolution requesting the legislative council to
2 establish an interim study committee to consider
3 methods to promote local food systems and the
4 marketing of reasonably priced wholesome food.

5 WHEREAS, there is an opportunity to consider
6 methods to further a number of food policies important
7 to the citizens of this state, including expanding
8 rural economic development, reducing the incidence of
9 hunger, improving the administration of government
10 programs, and utilizing provisions of the Farm
11 Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (the federal
12 farm bill); and

13 WHEREAS, the general assembly, in cooperation with
14 a diverse coalition of local governments and private
15 interests, including farmers, processors, and
16 retailers, may positively impact the production,
17 processing, and distribution of fresh Iowa-grown food
18 marketed on a community or regional basis; NOW

19 THEREFORE,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the legislative
21 council is requested to establish an interim study
22 committee consisting of members of both political
23 parties from throughout the state in order to consider
24 local food systems, including persons who produce
25 commodities, processors of food products, and
26 marketers of food products who operate within this
27 state and, to every extent possible, within the same
28 community or region of this state; and

SR 18
RULES & ADMINISTRATION

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the study committee
2 consider methods to promote local food systems and the
3 marketing of reasonably priced wholesome food; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the study committee
5 consider strategies to do all of the following:

6 1. Facilitate cooperation between producers,
7 processors, and marketers who operate within the same
8 region or community.

9 2. Remove obstacles to the establishment or
10 expansion of local food systems, which may include the
11 revision of government regulations and policies.

12 3. Expand markets for food derived from
13 organically produced and processed commodities or
14 specialty commodities.

15 4. Increase the amount of purchases of food
16 products derived from commodities which have been
17 locally produced and processed by institutional
18 purchasers including governmental bodies.

19 5. Enhance campaigns to better educate consumers
20 regarding the advantages of purchasing food products
21 that are locally produced, processed, and marketed,
22 including but not limited to advantages relating to
23 freshness, taste, nutrition, and variety.

24 6. Encourage methods to ensure regional economic
25 health, regional food self-reliance, and energy
26 conservation by providing for increased investment in
27 local production, processing, and marketing
28 operations; and

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the study committee
30 prepare a final report which shall include findings

1 and recommendations and which may include proposed
2 legislation; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee submit
4 the final report to the legislative council for
5 consideration by the Eighty-First General Assembly
6 during the 2006 Legislative Session.

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