

S 1773

Local Farms, Food, and Jobs Act of 2011

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Nov 1, 2011

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Nov 1, 2011)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/1773>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]

Party: Democratic • **State:** OH • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (14 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Nov 1, 2011
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Nov 1, 2011
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Nov 1, 2011
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Nov 1, 2011
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Nov 1, 2011
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Nov 1, 2011
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Dec 12, 2011
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Dec 12, 2011
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Dec 12, 2011
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Feb 14, 2012
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Feb 16, 2012
Sen. Baucus, Max [D-MT]	D · MT		Mar 12, 2012
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 19, 2012
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Apr 26, 2012

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 1, 2011

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 3286	Related bill	Nov 1, 2011: Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Local Farms, Food, and Jobs Act of 2011 - Provides for the inclusion of locally or regionally produced agricultural food products under specified agricultural, rural development, agricultural research, crop insurance, and nutrition programs.

Directs the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to offer a whole farm adjusted revenue risk management insurance plan that allows a producer to qualify for an indemnity if actual gross farm revenue is below 85% of the producer's average gross farm revenue.

Prohibits the Corporation from requiring organic crop insurance premium surcharges.

Directs the Corporation to offer organic crop producers price elections that reflect actual retail or wholesale prices.

Amends the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (formerly known as the Food Stamp Act of 1977) to require state agencies to treat wireless retailers in the same manner as wired program retail food stores for purposes of supplemental nutrition assistance (SNAP, formerly food stamp) benefits. Defines "wireless retailer" to include: (1) a farmers market, (2) a farm stand, (3) a green cart, (4) a route vendor, (5) an entity operating a community-supported agriculture or fishery program, (6) a buying club, and (7) a farmer affiliated with such entities.

Directs the Secretary of Agriculture (USDA) to establish a wireless retailer electronic benefit transfer pilot program for smartphone technology.

Extends: (1) the program of fresh fruit and vegetable purchases for distribution to schools and service institutions; (2) the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (WIC) farmers' market nutrition program; (3) the seniors farmers' market nutrition program; (4) the rural business opportunity grant program; (5) the value-added agricultural product market development grant program; (6) the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative; (7) the specialty block grant program; and (8) the national organic certification cost-share program.

Amends the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to permit schools to use an amount equal to 15% of their commodity dollars for purchases of locally grown food.

Increases the annual fiscal year limit for community food project grants.

Amends the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to direct the Secretary to make and guarantee loans for the production of locally or regionally produced agricultural food products.

Directs the Comptroller General (GAO) to evaluate how the credit needs of young, beginning, and small farmers and local and regional farm and food systems are being met by the Farm Credit System, USDA, the Department of the Treasury, and any other federal agencies.

Amends the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to direct: (1) the Secretary to distribute price reporting of locally or regionally produced agricultural food products, and (2) the Under Secretary to establish a special initiative to coordinate USDA research relating to classical plant and animal breeding.

Amends the Rural Development Act of 1972 to direct the Secretary to increase technical assistance for sustainable local and regional food systems.

Amends the the Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act of 1976 to establish the local marketing promotion program (in

lieu of the farmers market promotion program) to promote producer-to-consumer marketing, including farmers markets and other local and regional food markets.

Directs the Secretary to establish in the Food Safety and Inspection Service technical assistance divisions to provide directly or through grants outreach, education, and training to very small or certain small meat and poultry processing plants.

Directs the Secretary to establish an electronic option for meat and poultry label preapproval.

Amends the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 to provide funding for the national food safety training, education, outreach, and technical assistance program.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 1, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 1, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.