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**Illinois Legislation 2009-2012
Enacted by the Illinois General Assembly**

LOCALIZING THE ILLINOIS FARM AND FOOD ECONOMY

**2009-2010
96th General Assembly**

Illinois Food, Farms, and Jobs Act HB3990 Public Act 96-579 Rep. J. Hamos
Sets forth procurement goals for local farm or food products for state agencies and state-funded institutions. Creates the Local Food, Farms, and Jobs Council a not-for-profit corporation tasked with facilitating the growth of an Illinois-based local farm and food product economy. Sets forth the responsibilities of and provides for the composition and governance of the Council. Specifies that the Council is not a State Agency and that its funds shall be considered private funds and held in an appropriate account outside of the State Treasury. Authorizes the development of a labeling and certification program, whereby a label may be placed on local farm and food products that are grown, processed, packaged, and distributed by Illinois citizens or businesses located wholly within the borders of Illinois.

County Code-Board of Health-Local Foods SB574 Public Act 96-0620 Sen. D. Koehler
Provides that a board of health may not discourage the purchase or consumption of locally grown foods in relation to foods that are not locally grown. Sets forth an exception to allow county and multi-county health departments to discourage use or consumption of locally grown foods during emergency situations, including but not limited to a food-borne disease outbreak.

Farm Fresh Schools Program HB78 Public Act 96-0153 Rep. S. Cole
Provides that the Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the State Board of Education and the Department of Public Health, shall create the Farm Fresh Schools Program to reduce obesity and improve nutrition and public health, as well as strengthen local agricultural economies by increasing access to and promoting the consumption of locally grown fruits and vegetables in schools and increasing physical activities and programs that promote pupil wellness.

DCEO Capital Bill SB1221 Public Act 96-0039 Sen. D. Trotter
Appropriates \$10 million in funding for the Illinois Fresh Food Fund, to stimulate supermarket development in underserved areas of the state. The Fresh Food Fund will help grocers defray a portion of the costs associated with providing consistent access to fresh food including costs for land acquisition, equipment purchase, and infrastructure.

DHS-Grants-Hunger Relief SB1544 Public Act 96-0604 Sen. M. Noland
Creates the Hunger Relief Fund as a special fund in the State treasury. Provides that, from appropriations to the Department of Healthcare and Family Services from the Fund, the Department shall make grants to members of the Illinois Food Bank Association for the purpose of making capital improvements, purchasing food, or acquiring other assets. Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act. Creates a tax checkoff for the Hunger Relief Fund.

Obesity Prevention Initiative HB3767 Public Act 96-0155 Rep. E. Coulson
Provides that the Department of Public Health shall organize hearings on the health effects and costs of obesity and the need to address the obesity epidemic. Provides that the hearing officers shall provide a report on the hearings. Provides that the Department shall grant funds to one or more non-profit organizations or local public health departments to conduct a statewide education campaign.

The purpose of the hearings shall be to (1) highlight existing State and community level initiatives, (2) identify existing plans and opportunities for action and the expansion of initiatives, (3) inform policy makers and the public about effective solutions to the problem, and (4) identify and engage stakeholders to promote action to reduce obesity, improve nutrition, and increase physical activity.

EPA Composting Facilities SB99 Public Act 96-0418 Sen. H. Steans
SB99 allows food waste to be commercially composted in Illinois. This bill opens up the ability for investors to form food waste composting facilities, creating jobs in Illinois and selling Illinois-made compost all over the country. SB99 will divert waste from landfills, prolonging the life of Illinois' landfills and reducing gases which contribute to climate change. Redefines "food scrap" as "compostable material".

