

Resolution No. 31296

A RESOLUTION supporting the Seattle Farm Bill Principles as policy guidance to the Federal Government in the renewal of the 2012 Farm Bill.

The City of Seattle - Legislative Department

Resolution sponsored by: Richard Conlin

Committee Action:

Date	Recommendation	Vote
5/17/11	APPROVE	2-0 <i>Abigail Conlin</i>

Related Legislation File: _____

Date Introduced and Referred: 5-16-11	To: (committee): Regional Dev. + Sustainability
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date Re-referred:	To: (committee):
Date of Final Action: May 23, 2011	Date Presented to Mayor: _____
Date Signed by Mayor: _____	Date Returned to City Clerk: May 23, 2011
Published by Title Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Date Returned Without Concurrence:
Published in Full Text	

This file is complete and ready for presentation to Full Council. RC 5/17/11

Full Council Action:

Date	Decision	Vote
May 23, 2011	ADOPTED	9-0

Law Department

RESOLUTION 31296

A RESOLUTION supporting the Seattle Farm Bill Principles as policy guidance to the Federal Government in the renewal of the 2012 Farm Bill.

WHEREAS, Seattle, along with other municipalities, faces multiple health, social, and environmental problems connected to food. In 2007, up to 11% of adults in Seattle ran out of food. In 2008, the incidence of obesity in King County adults was 21% and that of overweight adults was 54%. In 2006, the annual attributable cost of diabetes was estimated at \$1.025 million. Overweight and obesity are significant risk factors for type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and other chronic diseases. Supporting public health and protecting our environment are essential to the viability and livability of our city and hence our economy; and

WHEREAS, improving nutrition and reducing hunger are not only moral concerns, but also critical for decreasing social vulnerability, increasing the capacity of children to learn, and improving economic opportunity. In Seattle, 42% of public school students are enrolled to receive free or reduced meals. In the last two years, many of our food banks reported an increase of clientele of 50% or more. The current quality of food is insufficient to meet health needs. We cannot be complacent about poor diet and lack of access to fresh, high quality, healthy food; and

WHEREAS, agriculture represents an important part of both rural and urban economies. According to United States Department of Agriculture 2007 Census Data, farms in the 12 Puget Sound counties had sales of \$1.1 billion. Yet, farmland, farms, and farmers are at risk because of policy barriers and inadequate infrastructure and the region is still losing farmland. There is a demonstrated need for regionally-appropriate technology and infrastructure that can address market barriers and create food industry jobs, and

WHEREAS, people increasingly understand that food is connected not only to health, but also to the environment, climate change, and the economy. Access to healthy food is increased when local and regional food production, processing, distribution and retail work together to build strong markets for healthy foods. There is a growing awareness that our urban and rural communities are mutually interdependent and that the regional food economy can create stable jobs within our communities, and

WHEREAS, maintaining and improving the security of a diverse food supply is essential to local emergency preparedness and regional self-reliance. New coordination across city, county, state, and federal agencies, as well as between government, civil society, and businesses is needed to allow communities greater flexibility to plan and take action for strong and diverse food systems in every region, and



1 WHEREAS, the current food system has led to an unsustainable reliance on chemical inputs and
2 cheap oil for production and distribution and the paradox of simultaneous increases in both
3 obesity and chronic hunger. The current food system externalizes a host of environmental
4 problems. Sustainable agricultural practices need to be more broadly supported and applied
5 and reliance on oil must be reduced; and

6 WHEREAS, the policies, programs, and funding included in the 2012 Farm Bill currently pending
7 before the United States Congress will affect how successful Seattle can be in achieving our
8 goal of improving our local food system and in doing so, advance the City's interrelated
9 Comprehensive Plan goals of environmental sustainability, economic development, public
10 health, race and social justice, and emergency preparedness. Local government has an
11 important role to play in creating a healthy food system, but federal policies and actions
12 significantly impact Seattle's ability to fully realize these goals; and

13 WHEREAS, the Seattle Local Food Action Initiative was established in Resolution 31019; and

14 WHEREAS, as part of that Initiative, the Seattle Farm Bill Principles were developed as guidance
15 to the Federal Government as it renews the Farm Bill in 2012. Founding co-signers of the
16 Principles include civic leaders in Seattle and Washington farmers, NOW THEREFORE,

17 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE:**

18 Section 1. The City supports the Seattle Farm Bill Principles attached to this resolution as
19 Attachment A.

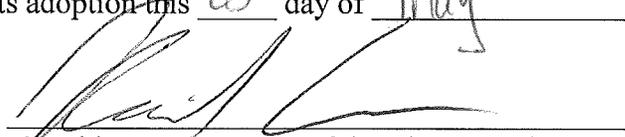
20 Section 2. The City directs its federal lobbyists to take an active role in advocacy for a
21 Farm Bill that reflects and supports the principles expressed in this resolution.

22 Section 3. The City calls upon the Federal Government to work toward a Farm Bill that
23 is consonant with the Seattle Farm Bill Principles.
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Adopted by the City Council the 23rd day of May, 2011, and signed by me
in open session in authentication of its adoption this 23rd day of May, 2011.



President _____ of the City Council

Filed by me this 23rd day of May, 2011.



Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

Attachment A: Seattle Farm Bill Principles



Attachment A

Seattle Farm Bill Principles
Supporting Healthy Farms, Food and People
Guidance for the 2012 Farm Bill

1. **Health-centered Food System**

The driving principle of the Farm Bill must be the relationship of food and ecologically sound agriculture to public health. Food that promotes health includes fruits, vegetables, whole grains, nuts, seeds, legumes, dairy, and lean protein. Improving the health of the nation's residents must be a priority in developing policies, programs, and funding.

2. **Sustainable Agricultural Practices**

Promote farming systems and agricultural techniques that prioritize the protection of the environment so that the soil, air, and water will be able to continue producing food long into the future. Integral to both domestic and global agricultural policies should be agricultural techniques and farming practices that enhance environmental quality, build soil and soil fertility, protect natural resources and ecosystem diversity, improve food safety, and increase the quality life of communities, farmers and farm workers.

3. **Community and Regional Prosperity and Resilience**

Enhance food security by strengthening the viability of small and mid-scale farms, and increasing appropriately scaled processing facilities, distribution networks, and direct marketing. Develop strategies that foster resiliency, local innovation, interdependence, and community development in both rural and urban economies.

4. **Equitable Access to Healthy Food**

Identify opportunities and reduce barriers by developing policies and programs that increase the availability of and improve the proximity of healthy, affordable, and culturally-relevant food to urban, suburban, and rural populations. Protect the nation's core programs that fight food insecurity and hunger while promoting vibrant, sustainable agriculture.

5. **Social Justice and Equity**

The policies reflected in the Farm Bill impact the lives and livelihoods of many people, both in the U.S. as well as abroad. Develop policies, programs, and strategies that support social justice, worker's rights, equal opportunity, and promote community self-reliance.

6. **Systems Approach to Policymaking**

It is essential to reduce compartmentalization of policies and programs, and to approach policy decisions by assessing their impact on all aspects of the food system including production, processing, distribution, marketing, consumption, and waste management. Consider the interrelated effects of policies and align expected outcomes to meet the goal of a comprehensive health-focused food system.



FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
Legislative	Phyllis Shulman/684-8816	

Legislation Title:

A RESOLUTION supporting the Seattle Farm Bill Principles as policy guidance to the Federal Government in the renewal of the 2012 Farm Bill.

Summary of the Legislation:

Background: The Seattle Local Food Action Initiative was established in Resolution 31019. As part of that Initiative, the Seattle Farm Bill Principles were developed as guidance to the Federal Government as it renews the Farm Bill in 2012. Founding co-signers of the Principles include civic leaders in Seattle and Washington farmers.

Please check one of the following:

This legislation does not have any financial implications.
(Stop here and delete the remainder of this document prior to saving and printing.)

This legislation has financial implications. (Please complete all relevant sections that follow.)



STATE OF WASHINGTON – KING COUNTY

--SS.

271813
CITY OF SEATTLE, CLERKS OFFICE

No. TITLE ONLY

Affidavit of Publication

The undersigned, on oath states that he is an authorized representative of The Daily Journal of Commerce, a daily newspaper, which newspaper is a legal newspaper of general circulation and it is now and has been for more than six months prior to the date of publication hereinafter referred to, published in the English language continuously as a daily newspaper in Seattle, King County, Washington, and it is now and during all of said time was printed in an office maintained at the aforesaid place of publication of this newspaper. The Daily Journal of Commerce was on the 12th day of June, 1941, approved as a legal newspaper by the Superior Court of King County.

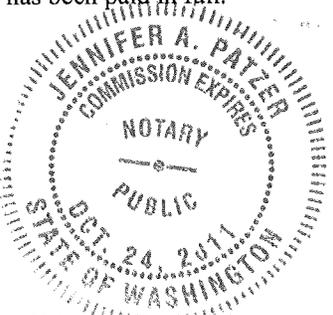
The notice in the exact form annexed, was published in regular issues of The Daily Journal of Commerce, which was regularly distributed to its subscribers during the below stated period. The annexed notice, a

CT:31296 & 31298 TITLE

was published on

05/31/11

The amount of the fee charged for the foregoing publication is the sum of \$ 47.78, which amount has been paid in full.



[Handwritten Signature]

Subscribed and sworn to before me on

[Handwritten Signature]
05/31/11

Notary public for the State of Washington,
residing in Seattle

State of Washington, King County

City of Seattle

The full text of the following legislation, passed by the City Council on May 23, 2011, and published below by title only, will be mailed upon request, or can be accessed at <http://clerk.seattle.gov>. For information on upcoming meetings of the Seattle City Council, please visit <http://www.seattle.gov/council/calendar>.

Contact: Office of the City Clerk at (206) 684-8344.

RESOLUTION NO. 31296

A RESOLUTION supporting the Seattle Farm Bill Principles as policy guidance to the Federal Government in the renewal of the 2012 Farm Bill.

RESOLUTION NO. 31298

A RESOLUTION submitting a referendum regarding City of Seattle Ordinance introduced as Council Bill 117101 to the qualified electors of the City, at an election to be held on August 16, 2011; calling on the City Clerk to certify the proposed referendum to the King County Director of Elections; requesting that the Director of Elections call a special election in conjunction with the August 16, 2011 primary election and submit

the proposition to City voters; requesting that the City Attorney prepare a ballot title and explanatory statement; and requesting that the Director of Ethics and Elections ensure that the measure is in the voter's pamphlet.

Publication ordered by the City Clerk
Date of publication in the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, May 31, 2011.
5/31(271813)