

1 WHEREAS, the GusNIP has aided in the creation of market match programs
2 throughout the country, including Louisiana, whereby recipients of the Supplemental
3 Nutrition Assistance Program, commonly known as SNAP, can receive a dollar for dollar
4 match up to a particular amount to use for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables at
5 participating farmers markets and from local producers; and

6 WHEREAS, according to recent USDA data, there are nine hundred seven thousand
7 Louisiana residents, nearly one quarter of the state's population, enrolled in SNAP; and

8 WHEREAS, the "Greux the Good" program provides technical assistance and other
9 support to Louisiana farmers markets and direct marketing farmers to further increase the
10 number of local agricultural direct-to-consumer SNAP-authorized business; and

11 WHEREAS, the Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) was established by
12 Congress in 1992, to provide fresh, unprepared, locally grown fruits and vegetables to
13 participants of the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) federal assistance program and the
14 Seniors FMNP, and to expand awareness, use of, and sales at farmers markets; and

15 WHEREAS, according to the USDA, fifteen percent of all Louisiana homes in 2020
16 suffered from food insecurity, which is defined as a lack of consistent access to enough food
17 for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life; and

18 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, Louisiana suffers from
19 some of the poorest health outcomes in the country, in large part due to forty-seven and a
20 half percent of adults reporting they consumed fruit less than one time daily and nearly
21 thirty-three percent reporting they consumed vegetables less than one time daily; and

22 WHEREAS, SNAP aids in reducing hunger and food insecurity, and matching
23 programs are known to increase consumption of fruits and vegetables in low-income
24 households; and

25 WHEREAS, fifty-two out of sixty-four parishes have been impacted by the "Greux
26 the Good" program with over four thousand five hundred shoppers, eighty produce farmers,
27 and two hundred thirty vendors with approximately eighty-four percent redemption rate
28 since receiving its first appropriation in 2022; and

29 WHEREAS, the "Greux the Good" program has provided Louisiana farmers
30 markets and operations with funding to create or expand a market match SNAP program

1 whereby increasing the number of shoppers at farmers markets and the amount of fresh
2 produce consumed in Louisiana, will create a mutual benefit of positively impacting the
3 state's agricultural economy and farmers while helping to decrease the food insecurity of
4 some of the most vulnerable populations.

5 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
6 urge and request the Louisiana House of Representatives and the Louisiana Senate to
7 recognize and continue to support the farmers market match programs for SNAP and FMNP
8 recipients in the state as the "Greaux the Good" program.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge
10 and request the Louisiana House of Representatives and the Louisiana Senate to appropriate
11 funds for the "Greaux the Good" program in order to increase the size and scope of the
12 program which will support local farmers and decrease food insecurity in the state.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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McFarland

Urges and requests the Legislature of La. to support the "Greaux the Good" farmers market match program.