

HB 93: Healthy Farm and Food Innovation Fund

Kentucky Grown For Kentucky Homes

The Issue

In Kentucky there are 575,300 people are facing hunger - and of them 162,100 are children. Add in that 17.7% of seniors (ages 60+) are food insecure in our state, we know we have a serious problem. And the problem doesn't stop there. Kentucky ranks in the bottom in health and food statistics with 66% of adult Kentuckians being overweight, having only 24% of adult Kentuckians consume the recommended amount of fruits and vegetables, and Kentucky children ranking #1 in obesity.

The gap between the plate and the field is too great, leaving Kentucky families hungry and Kentucky farmers frustrated. We could do so much to close this gap if we had more funding. Thankfully, there's a way we can get there.

The Solution

PRIORITY #1:

Used to house

matching funds

for federal grant

programs.

The Healthy Farm and Food Innovation Fund would create a structured state fund capable of receiving state, federal, and private philanthropy funds to help Kentucky address food and nutritional security.

> Introducing and passing this Healthy Farm & Food Fund legislation will build upon Kentucky's current momentum, creating stability and opportunities for direct farm impact food access programs-

such as Kentucky Double Dollars, the Senior Farmers Market Program, and Fresh RX for MOMs-and pave the way for additional new efforts that support the vitality of Kentucky agriculture and the health of Kentuckians.

> This fund would specifically match grants for programs that help:

- Farmers
- Local Producers
- Seniors
- Children and WIC participants
- SNAP participants

Applicants to the fund are **required to use KY grown products,** helping put money back into the pockets of farmers and expanding their businesses.



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The Impacts

The Healthy Farm and Food Innovation Fund would:

- Increase funding available to support programs which ensure that low-income Kentuckians have access to affordable, healthy, locally-grown food
- **Create program sustainability,** ensuring that food insecure Kentuckians have access to healthy food
- Establish new opportunities and innovation for direct farm impact food access programs—such as Kentucky Double Dollars, Farms to Food Banks, and Fresh RX for MOMs



2021 KADF (KY Ag. Development Fund) Return on Investment for Kentucky Double Dollars was \$8.45 to \$1.

(Community and Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky 2020 Study)

Farmers

These programs help farmers **grow their businesses** through **increased sales** from new and repeating customers who otherwise would not be able to afford locally-grown food. Increasing capacity for matched federal dollars **increases profits for farmers.**

Families

By increasing the accessibility of healthy locally-grown foods, the Healthy Farm & Food Innovation Fund will decrease household food insecurity and simultaneously improve the dietary health outcomes of Kentucky's children and their families.

<u>Economy</u>

This fund will bring more federal dollars flowing into the state, which will raise the percentage of families' grocery budgets spent on Kentucky-grown foods, increasing the amount of money in Kentucky farmers' pockets and keeping more dollars local. Economists estimate that every \$1 a household redeems through SNAP generates about \$1.70 in economic activity.

For more information, visit www.cfaky.org/healthy-farm-food/ Campaign Coordinator: Kimmie Ishmael | kimberly@cfaky.org