

CHAPTER 27**(HCR 47)**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION commending Madison County Schools for using the farm-to-school concept for school meals and encouraging other school districts to do so.

WHEREAS, recent national supply chain disruptions are causing shortages in school cafeteria foods; and

WHEREAS, some Kentucky school districts have found a solution in buying food locally within their county, region, and across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, this approach, called farm-to-school, provides many benefits including nutritional, educational, and economical; and

WHEREAS, the Madison County School District, which began buying local meats and vegetables several years ago, was buffered from the recent supply chain shortages; and

WHEREAS, thanks to adopting the farm-to-school approach, the district has access to the products needed to continue serving nutritious and delicious meals to its students; and

WHEREAS, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Farm to School program works to connect local farmers and small businesses with school nutrition staff to get Kentucky foods into Kentucky's school systems; and

WHEREAS, buying local will enable schools to serve fresh, nutritious meals, support local farmers and Kentucky's economy, and educate students on the value of supporting local food systems; and

WHEREAS, during the public health and economic emergency caused by COVID-19, the benefits of buying local have been magnified for school districts who have been able to get the food products they need while supporting the local community;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

➔Section 1. The General Assembly commends the Madison County School District for adopting the farm-to-school approach and encourages all local school districts to purchase locally grown food to solve food supply issues, provide fresh, nutritious food to students, and support local producers.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Superintendent David Gilliam, Madison County Schools, 301 Highland Park Drive, Richmond, Kentucky 40475; Dr. Jim Flynn, Executive Director, Kentucky Association of School Superintendents, 87 C Michael Davenport Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601; and Commissioner Ryan Quarles, Kentucky Department of Agriculture, 111 Corporate Drive, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Signed by Governor March 24, 2022.