



SPONSOR: Rep. Yearick on behalf of all Representatives &
Sen. Ennis on behalf of all Senators

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 48

PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF JULY 10-14, 2017 AS DELAWARE LOCAL PRODUCE WEEK.

1 WHEREAS, there are over 80 on-site farmstands throughout the state allowing individuals and families to connect
2 directly with local farmers to purchase fresh produce; and

3 WHEREAS, 25 community-run farmers' markets are expected to be operating in Delaware this year; and

4 WHEREAS, Delaware's farmers' markets are expressions of the communities in which they are held, being
5 administered by municipalities, business groups, farmers' or market associations; and

6 WHEREAS, farmers' markets provide a unique opportunity to purchase produce and locally made value-added
7 goods; and

8 WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture reports 45 percent of Delaware farmers' market sales are tied to
9 agricultural products such as meats, cheeses, jellies, breads, salsa, eggs or honey, facilitating small business start-ups; and

10 WHEREAS, many farmers' markets accept Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) transactions, expanding the
11 availability of healthy, fresh fruits and vegetables; and

12 WHEREAS, the 2016 market season posted sales of more than \$2.9 million; and

13 WHEREAS, Delaware's more than 20 "u-pick farms" offer a distinctive experience for patrons to get the freshest
14 fruit and vegetables possible by harvesting this produce themselves; and

15 WHEREAS, many organizations and businesses offer local Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs,
16 providing shareholders with fresh produce on a weekly basis during peak harvest seasons; and

17 WHEREAS, initiatives are underway in city neighborhoods to empower local residents to grow their own healthy
18 food in urban environments; and

19 WHEREAS, all of these activities and ventures have the common benefit of encouraging the consumption of
20 locally produced fruits and vegetables, which have the most robust flavor and highest nutritional value; and

21 WHEREAS, consuming local produce helps stimulate our state's economy and builds relationships between
22 Delaware farmers, businesses, and citizens; and

23 WHEREAS, marketing and promoting local produce is environmentally beneficial by reducing the energy needed
24 to transport produce from farms to consumers;

25 NOW, THEREFORE:

26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 149th General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the
27 Senate concurring therein, that we do proclaim the week of July 10-14, 2017 as Delaware Local Produce Week.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that activities should be undertaken during this week to highlight ventures that
29 produce, distribute and market fresh produce in The First State.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Assembly, the Delaware Department of Agriculture, and the
31 Office of Governor John Carney are respectfully requested to collaborate and cooperate in successfully staging Delaware
32 Local Produce Week.

SYNOPSIS

This Resolution proclaims the week of July 10-14, 2017 as Delaware Local Produce Week. This is the third consecutive year this observation is being staged in an attempt to facilitate a better, healthier relationship between Delaware farmers and local consumers.