



SPONSOR: Rep. Yearick & Rep. Dorsey Walker on behalf of all Representatives & Sen. Wilson on behalf of all Senators

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 136

PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 19TH THROUGH MAY 25, 2024, AS DELAWARE GROWN WEEK.

1 WHEREAS, there are at least 115 farm stands throughout the state, allowing individuals and families to connect
2 directly with local farmers to purchase fresh produce; and

3 WHEREAS, at least 28 community-run farmers markets will 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, or associations; and

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

8 WHEREAS, about half of Delaware farmers market sales are typically tied to agricultural products such as meats,
9 cheeses, jellies, breads, salsa, eggs, or honey – facilitating small business start-ups; and

10 WHEREAS, many farmers markets and on-farm markets accept Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) transactions,
11 the Women Infant and Children Farmers Market Nutrition Program, and the Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program,
12 expanding the availability of healthy, fresh fruits and vegetables; and

13 WHEREAS, Delaware's 14 "u-pick" operations offer a distinctive experience for patrons to get the freshest fruits
14 and vegetables possible by harvesting the produce themselves; and

15 WHEREAS, 20 Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs in Delaware provide shareholders with fresh
16 produce periodically during the growing season; and

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

19 WHEREAS, school-aged youth are increasing their agricultural literacy by learning how to grow, prepare, and eat
20 healthy fruits, vegetables, and herbs through school gardens and agriscience education programs,

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

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

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

27 NOW, THEREFORE:

28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 152nd Delaware General Assembly that from May 19-
29 25, 2024, is proclaimed as Delaware Grown Week.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that activities should be undertaken this week to highlight ventures that produce,
31 distribute, and market Delaware Grown produce in The First State.

SYNOPSIS

This concurrent resolution proclaims the week of May 19-25, 2024, Delaware Grown Week. Ten years ago, the General Assembly first partnered with the Delaware Department of Agriculture to establish this annual observation to facilitate better, healthier relationships between Delaware farmers and local consumers. Delaware Grown Week is celebrated annually, the third full week of May. Successful passage of this resolution will continue this worthy collaboration.