

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 26, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 24, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 7, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 25, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 19, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 224

Introduced by Assembly Member Gordon

February 4, 2013

An act to *amend Section 47000 of, and to add Article 6 (commencing with Section 47060) to Chapter 10.5 of Division 17 of, the Food and Agricultural Code, and to amend Section 113735 of the Health and Safety Code*, relating to agricultural products.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 224, as amended, Gordon. Agricultural products: direct marketing: community-supported agriculture.

Existing law encourages the Department of Food and Agriculture to assist producers in organizing certified farmers' markets, field retail stands, farm stands, and other forms of direct marketing by providing technical advice on marketing methods and in complying with the regulations that affect direct marketing programs.

This bill would *also encourage the department to assist in organizing community-supported agriculture. The bill would require producers that market whole produce, shell eggs, or processed foods through single-farm or multi-farm community-supported agriculture programs,*

as defined, to register annually with the department ~~or a county agricultural commissioner~~ as a California direct marketing producer, and, among other things, to specify whether the producer is part of a single-farm community-supported agriculture program or a multi-farm community-supported agriculture program. The bill would impose specified requirements relating to the labeling and maintenance of consumer boxes and containers that are used in community-supported agriculture programs to deliver farm products, and would require a registered California direct marketing producer to maintain records of the contents and origin of all of the items included in each consumer box or container in accordance with department regulations.

The bill would require a registered California direct marketing producer to pay an annual registration fee of up to \$100, as provided, to be deposited in the Department of Food and Agriculture Fund, which would be used by the department for the administration of the bill's provisions.

Existing law, the California Retail Food Code, establishes food safety requirements, and requires food to be obtained from approved sources, as defined. Existing law provides for the enforcement of the California Retail Food Code by enforcement officers, as defined, which includes the State Department of Public Health. Funds collected by the State Department of Public Health pursuant to those provisions are deposited in the Food Safety Fund for use by the State Department of Public Health, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for purposes of carrying out and implementing inspection provisions, as specified.

This bill would specify that a registered direct marketing producer is an approved source, subject to compliance with specified provisions of law, and would also specify that any whole uncut fruit or vegetable or unrefrigerated shell egg grown or produced in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and food safety guidelines shall be deemed to be from an approved source. The bill would authorize enforcement officers to enter and inspect a community-supported agricultural program in response to a public food safety complaint, and would authorize the enforcement officer to recover reasonable costs associated with that inspection from the registered direct marketing producer operating the community-supported agriculture program.

Because a violation of various provisions regulating direct marketing, including requirements relating to labeling and shipping products and preparing and submitting specified documents, is a crime, this bill would

create new crimes and would therefore impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 47000 of the Food and Agricultural Code
2 is amended to read:
3 47000. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following
4 with regard to the direct marketing of agricultural products:
5 (a) Direct marketing of agricultural products benefits the
6 agricultural community and the consumer by, among other things,
7 providing an alternative method for growers to sell their products
8 while benefiting the consumer by supplying quality produce at
9 reasonable prices.
10 (b) Direct marketing is a good public relations tool for the
11 agricultural industry that brings the farmer face-to-face with
12 consumers.
13 (c) The marketing potential of a wide variety of
14 California-produced agricultural products should be maximized.
15 (d) Farm stands allow farmers to sell fresh produce and eggs
16 grown on their farm as well as other food products made with
17 ingredients produced on or near the farm, thus enhancing their
18 income and the local economy.
19 (e) The department should maintain a direct marketing program
20 and the industry should continue to encourage the sale of
21 California-grown fresh produce.
22 (f) It is the intent of the state to promote the consumption of
23 California-grown produce and to promote access to
24 California-produced agricultural products. Restaurants and
25 nonprofit organizations can provide assistance in bringing
26 California-grown products to all Californians.

1 (g) A regulatory scheme should be developed that provides the
 2 flexibility that will make direct marketing a viable marketing
 3 system.

4 (h) The department should assist producers in organizing
 5 certified farmers’ markets, field retail stands, farm stands,
 6 *community-supported agriculture*, and other forms of direct
 7 marketing by providing technical advice on marketing methods
 8 and in complying with the regulations that affect direct marketing
 9 programs.

10 (i) The department is encouraged to establish an ad hoc advisory
 11 committee to assist the department in establishing regulations
 12 affecting direct marketing of products and to advise the secretary
 13 in all matters pertaining to direct marketing.

14 **SECTION 1.**

15 *SEC. 2.* Article 6 (commencing with Section 47060) is added
 16 to Chapter 10.5 of Division 17 of the Food and Agricultural Code,
 17 to read:

18

19 Article 6. Community-Supported Agriculture

20

21 47060. For purposes of this article, the following definitions
 22 apply:

23 (a) “Community-supported agriculture program” or “CSA
 24 program” means a program under which a registered California
 25 direct marketing producer, or a group of registered California direct
 26 marketing producers, grow food for a group of California consumer
 27 shareholders or subscribers who pledge or contract to buy, ~~on a~~
 28 ~~prepayment basis~~, a portion of the future crop, animal production,
 29 or both, of a registered California direct marketing producer or a
 30 group of registered California direct marketing producers.

31 (b) “Single-farm community-supported agriculture program”
 32 means a program in which ~~all~~ *at least 90 percent of* delivered farm
 33 products originate from and are produced at the farm of one
 34 registered California direct marketing producer, *and no more than*
 35 *10 percent of delivered farm products originate at the farms of*
 36 *other registered California direct marketing producers.*

37 (c) “Multi-farm community-supported agriculture program”
 38 means a program in which all delivered farm products originate
 39 from and are produced at one or more farms of a group of registered
 40 California direct marketing producers who declare their association

1 as a group at the time of their annual certification *or by amending*
2 *the annual certification during the year.*

3 (d) “Farm” means a farm operated by a registered California
4 direct marketing producer or a group of registered California direct
5 marketing producers.

6 47061. (a) A producer that markets whole produce, shell eggs,
7 or processed foods through a single-farm community-supported
8 agriculture program or multi-farm community-supported
9 agriculture program shall comply with all of the following:

10 (1) Register annually with the department ~~or a county~~
11 ~~agricultural commissioner~~ as a California direct marketing
12 producer, which shall include both of the following:

13 (A) A statement specifying whether the producer is part of a
14 single-farm community supported agriculture program or
15 multi-farm community-supported agriculture program.

16 (B) (i) A declaration by the producer that he or she is
17 knowledgeable and intends to produce in accordance with good
18 agricultural practices, as outlined in the small farm food safety
19 ~~guidance~~ *guidelines* published by the department.

20 (ii) A declaration made pursuant to this subparagraph shall not
21 be used to infer that the producer is not required to comply with
22 any other state or federal laws relative to food safety and good
23 agricultural practices.

24 (2) Label the consumer box or container used to deliver farm
25 products to the consumer with the name and address of the farm
26 delivering the box or container.

27 (3) Maintain the consumer boxes or containers in a condition
28 that prevents contamination.

29 (4) Inform consumers, either by including a printed list in the
30 consumer box or container or by delivering a list electronically to
31 the consumer, of the farm of origin of each item in the consumer
32 box or container.

33 (5) Maintain records that document the contents and origin of
34 all of the items included in each consumer box or container, in
35 accordance with department regulations.

36 (6) Comply with all labeling and identification requirements
37 for shell eggs and processed foods imposed pursuant to the
38 provisions of the Health and Safety Code, including, but not limited
39 to, the farm’s name, physical address, and telephone number.

1 (b) A registered California direct marketing producer that is in
2 compliance with this section and in good standing shall be deemed
3 an approved source, as defined in Section 113735 of the Health
4 and Safety Code.

5 (c) *A potentially hazardous food, as defined in Section 113871*
6 *of the Health and Safety Code, shall not be included in a consumer*
7 *box distributed pursuant to this article unless that food has been*
8 *produced, processed, and handled pursuant to all applicable*
9 *federal, state, and local food safety requirements.*

10 (d) *Poultry and rabbit meat produced pursuant to Part 2*
11 *(commencing with Section 25401) of Division 12, and other meats*
12 *produced pursuant to Chapter 4.1 (commencing with Section*
13 *18940) of Part 3 of Division 9, that are marketed under this chapter*
14 *shall comply with handling requirements established in the small*
15 *farm food safety guidelines published by the department, as*
16 *described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 47062.*

17 (e) *An enforcement officer, as defined in Section 113774 of the*
18 *California Retail Food Code (Part 7 (commencing with Section*
19 *113700) of Division 104 the Health and Safety Code) may enter*
20 *into and inspect a community-supported agriculture program in*
21 *response to a public food safety complaint. The enforcement officer*
22 *may recover reasonable costs associated with that inspection from*
23 *the registered direct marketing producer operating the*
24 *community-supported agriculture program.*

25 (e)

26 (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to remove the
27 responsibility of a community-supported agriculture program from
28 obtaining all required permits and licenses, including, but not
29 limited to, a produce handler license or a cottage food permit.

30 47062. (a) The annual registration fee for a registered
31 California direct marketing producer shall be set by regulation
32 enacted by the secretary that is reflective of the actual cost of the
33 processing of registration, but in no event shall exceed one hundred
34 dollars (\$100) annually.

35 (b) Fees collected pursuant to this article shall be deposited in
36 the Department of Food and Agriculture Fund and shall be used
37 by the department for the administration of this article.
38 Administration of this article shall include ~~both~~ all of the following:

39 (1) Create and maintain a registration system for California
40 direct marketing producers.

1 (2) *In consultation with the State Department of Public Health*
2 *and local health officers or designees, publish, periodically update,*
3 *and post on the Department of Food and Agriculture’s Internet*
4 *Web site small farm food safety guidelines on, but not limited to,*
5 *safe production, processing, and handling of both nonpotentially*
6 *hazardous and potentially hazardous foods.*

7 ~~(2)~~

8 (3) Coordination expenses incurred relative to meetings of any
9 ad hoc direct marketing advisory committee established by the
10 secretary.

11 (c) All or part of the annual registration fee shall be waived if
12 fees are paid by a California direct marketing producer for
13 registration or certification under any other program under the
14 purview of this chapter.

15 (d) The provisions of this article shall be complied with
16 regardless of any waiver of fees granted.

17 *SEC. 3. Section 113735 of the Health and Safety Code is*
18 *amended to read:*

19 113735. (a) “Approved source” means a food source allowed
20 under Article 3 (commencing with Section 114021) of Chapter 4,
21 or a producer, manufacturer, distributor, or food facility that is
22 acceptable to the enforcement agency based on a determination of
23 conformity with applicable laws, or, in the absence of applicable
24 laws, with current public health principles and practices, and
25 generally recognized industry standards that protect public health.

26 (b) *Any whole uncut fruit or vegetable or unrefrigerated shell*
27 *egg grown or produced in compliance with all applicable federal,*
28 *state, or local laws, regulations, and food safety guidelines issued*
29 *by a regulatory agency shall be deemed to be from an approved*
30 *source.*

31 ~~SEC. 2.~~

32 *SEC. 4.* No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
33 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
34 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
35 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
36 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
37 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of
38 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within

- 1 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
- 2 Constitution.

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