Farm to School: A National Movement Policy

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Sustainable Food System Work Group Call
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Our Policy Work

- The National Network is involved with Policy on a variety of levels:
  - Legislatively at the National Level
  - Administratively (USDA)
  - At the State Level
National Legislative Efforts

• 2004 Child Nutrition Reauthorization
• 2008 Farm Bill – Geographic Preference and Expansion of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
• AND NOW: 2010 Child Nutrition Reauthorization
2010 Child Nutrition Reauthorization

- Current Child Nutrition Programs extended for 1 year – new expiration date = Sep 30, 2010
- Our #1 Goal: Mandatory Funding for Farm to School Programs
  - $50 Million for a Competitive Grants Program
  - These grants would be renewable for up to two years, and be used to support planning, implementation, training, and technical assistance for communities to implement farm to school programs
Nourishing the Nation One Tray at a Time

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Farm to School Initiatives in the Child Nutrition Reauthorization

NATIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL NETWORK
COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY COALITION
SCHOOL FOOD FOCUS

www.farmtoschool.org
Administrative Efforts

• “What USDA Can Do” document
• “Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food” Initiative
  – Farm to School Tactical Teams
    • Farm to School Tactical Team Site Visits
    • Farm to School research agenda
    • Pilot Project Ideas
State By State Legislation Guide

• To Date, 24 States have passed legislation supporting Farm to School Programs

• These Policies generally:
  – Establish an Official Farm to School Program
  – Allow public institutions to preference locally grown products
  – Provide State Funding for Farm to School Programs
  – Encourage Institutions to purchase locally or support federal Farm to School Policy
  – Create a Farm to School “task force” to research the viability of a program
F2S Policy Resources on the Web

www.farmtoschool.org

- Backgrounder: Nourishing the Nation One Tray at a Time
- Farm to School Talking Points
- FAQ’s about Farm to School Policy Ask
- $50 Million Mandatory – Information for Your Legislators
- Child Nutrition Backgrounder
- Child Nutrition Priorities
- Child Nutrition USDA Listening Session Digest
- Child Nutrition Timeline
F2S Policy Resources on the Web

www.foodsecurity.org/policy
- Advocacy Toolkit
- USDA Local Food Support
- More Detailed Advocacy Information for Child Nutrition Reauthorization
- Farm to School Outcomes from the 2008 Farm Bill
- State By State Listing of Farm to School Legislation
Contact Information:

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