

Members of the House Finance Committee,

We all need to eat, and currently agriculture is in a big mess, with skyrocket fertilizer prices and diesel prices. In RI larger farms get variety of tax breaks, but the farms closest to low income neighborhoods, the farms most directly involved in food security for lower income

Rhode Islanders, small and urban farms, do not get the tax breaks available to other farmers. H 7242 will cost the state and municipalities almost nothing. There are not all that many urban farms, and the size of the operations means the overall amount of tax breaks will be minuscule, I believe last year when this was heard the number cited was about \$15000, hardly a rounding error in the state budget, but enough to help 100 urban farmers keep supplying food to their neighbors. Help keep small farmers in business and improve the resilience of low income urban neighborhoods. Please support H 7242.

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