

FARM FRESH RHODE ISLAND

May 15, 2025

Senate Finance Chair Louis DiPalma
and Senate Finance Committee

Re: SB2827

Dear Senators:

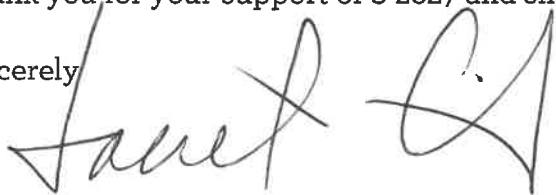
Farm Fresh Rhode Island is writing to you to express our support for Senate Bill 2827 which exempts certain urban and small farmers from sales taxes, real, tangible and personal property taxes and income taxes. As you know, Rhode Island already boasts meaningful tax relief programs for agriculture. Unfortunately, these programs were designed more than 30 years ago and leave out the small and urban farms that are the largest growing sector of farms in our state.

FFRI works to increase the availability and affordability of locally sourced foods, reduce food waste on local farms, and share knowledge of how fresh, local ingredients fit into a healthy lifestyle. As such, it is important to our organization that ALL of our Rhode Island farmers are supported through tax relief so that they can grow food to serve their communities and grow their business to serve a strong economic future for all of us.

Please move this bill out of committee for a full vote in the Senate as soon as you can. I am happy to report that the companion bill was passed by the House of Representatives in both 2024 and 2025 so passage in the Senate should make it possible for this bill to become law in 2026!

Thank you for your support of S 2827 and small and urban farmers in our state.

Sincerely



Janet Coit
Executive Director
Farm Fresh RI
401-312-4250