REGULAR CALENDAR

February 8, 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs to which was referred HB 574-FN-A, re-establishing the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	**Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs**
Bill Number:	**HB 574-FN-A**
Title:	**re-establishing the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers Market Nutrition Program.**
Date:	**February 8, 2023**
Consent Calendar:	**Regular Calendar**
Recommendation:	**WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION**

Statement in support of Ought to Pass with Amendment: This program gives women and children on the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program an extra $30 per growing season to purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables at farmers markets. In addition to the obvious nutritional benefits to the program recipients, the bill also benefits the local farming community by allowing greater purchasing power and ensuring greater demand for their produce. The bill includes an appropriation of $300,000. The amendment merely tracks the federal enabling language which makes it clear that participating farm stands, as well as farmers markets, are included in the program.

Amendment: 2023-0294h

Rep. Lucy Weber

Statement in support of Inexpedient to Legislate: This bill would re-establish a program that would give a small annual benefit of $10 to $30 that Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) progam recipients could use to purchase food at farmer's markets. As well-meaning as the bill is, it would cost taxpayers upwards of $300,000, yet would not have any substantial impact on the nutrition of WIC recipients. Many grocery stores that accept WIC sell local produce already. When this program was in place previously, vendors at farmer's markets faced challenges in redeeming the funds from the paper WIC system. Most WIC recipients are eligible for food stamps, which are accepted at farmer's markets and do not represent the WIC system challenges.

Amendment:

Rep. Leah Cushman

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

HB 574-FN-A, re-establishing the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers Market Nutrition Program. **WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION**

Statement in support of Ought to Pass with Amendment: This program gives women and children on the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program an extra $30 per growing season to purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables at farmers markets. In addition to the obvious nutritional benefits to the program recipients, the bill also benefits the local farming community by allowing greater purchasing power and ensuring greater demand for their produce. The bill includes an appropriation of $300,000. The amendment merely tracks the federal enabling language which makes it clear that participating farm stands, as well as farmers markets, are included in the program.

Rep. Lucy Weber

Statement in support of Inexpedient to Legislate: This bill would re-establish a program that would give a small annual benefit of $10 to $30 that Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) progam recipients could use to purchase food at farmer's markets. As well-meaning as the bill is, it would cost taxpayers upwards of $300,000, yet would not have any substantial impact on the nutrition of WIC recipients. Many grocery stores that accept WIC sell local produce already. When this program was in place previously, vendors at farmer's markets faced challenges in redeeming the funds from the paper WIC system. Most WIC recipients are eligible for food stamps, which are accepted at farmer's markets and do not represent the WIC system challenges.

Rep. Leah Cushman

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

Rep. Weber, Ches. 5
Rep. Layon, Rock. 13
February 2, 2023
2023-0294h
07/10

Amendment to HB 574-FN-A

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Section; Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program. Amend RSA 132 by inserting after section 12-e the following new section:

132:12-f WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program. There is established in the department of health and human services the New Hampshire Farmers' Market Nutrition Program for participants in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). The program shall distribute food instruments to eligible WIC participants to redeem for locally grown fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs at authorized New Hampshire farmers' markets or roadside stands in compliance with 7 C.F.R. 248 that are redeemable only at designated New Hampshire farmers' markets or roadside stands. The commissioner shall adopt rules under RSA 541-A to implement this program.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 574-FN-A

BILL TITLE: re-establishing the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

DATE: February 8, 2023

LOB ROOM: 210-211

MOTIONS: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Moved by Rep. Cushman | Seconded by Rep. McLean | Vote: 10-10

MOTIONS: OUGHT TO PASS

Moved by Rep. Weber | Seconded by Rep. Nutter-Upham | Vote: 10-10

CONSENT CALENDAR: NO

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Bill King, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on Bill # 574

BILL TITLE: ...

DATE: 2/8/23

LOB ROOM: 210-211

NO RECOMMENDATION

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☐ OTP ☑ ITL ☐ Retain (1st year) ☐ Adoption of Amendment # _____ *(if offered)*

☐ Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. CUSHMAN Seconded by Rep. MCLEAN Vote: 10-10

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☑ OTP ☐ OTP/A ☐ ITL ☐ Retain (1st year) ☐ Adoption of Amendment # _____ *(if offered)*

☐ Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. WEBER Seconded by Rep. NUTTER-UPHAM Vote: 10-10

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☐ OTP ☐ OTP/A ☐ ITL ☑ Retain (1st year) ☐ Adoption of Amendment # _____ *(if offered)*

WITHDRAWN

☐ Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. MERCHANT Seconded by Rep. MACKAY Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☐ OTP ☐ OTP/A ☐ ITL ☐ Retain (1st year) ☐ Adoption of Amendment # _____ *(if offered)*

☐ Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

CONSENT CALENDAR: ____ **YES** ____ **NO**

Minority Report? _____ Yes _____ No If yes, author, Rep: _____ Motion _____

Respectfully submitted: _____

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/6/2023 12:36:33 PM
Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2023 SESSION

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

Bill #: 574 Motion: ITL AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 2/8/23

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
MacDonald, Wayne D. Chairman	10		
Layon, Erica J. Vice Chairman	1		
Cushman, Leah P.	2		
King, Bill C. Clerk	3		
~~Kofalt, Jim~~ NOTTER, JEANNE	4		
McLean, Mark	5		
King, Seth	6		
Mazur, Lisa R	7		
Nagel, David J	8		
Polozov, Yury	9		
Weber, Lucy M.		1	
MacKay, James R.		2	
Freitas, Mary C.		3	
Cannon, Gerri D.		4	
Nutter-Upham, Frances E.		5	
Schapiro, Joe		6	
Merchant, Gary		7	
Murphy, James Michael		8	
Palmer, William S		9	
~~Tellez, Trinidad~~ PRIGE, DAVID		10	
TOTAL VOTE:			

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/6/2023 12:36:33 PM
Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2023 SESSION

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

Bill #: 574 Motion: OTP AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 2/8/23

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
MacDonald, Wayne D. Chairman	10		
Layon, Erica J. Vice Chairman	1		
Cushman, Leah P.	2		
King, Bill C. Clerk	3		
~~Kofalt, Jim~~ NOTTER, JEANINE	4		
McLean, Mark	5		
King, Seth	6		
Mazur, Lisa R	7		
Nagel, David J	8		
Polozov, Yury	9		
Weber, Lucy M.		1	
MacKay, James R.		2	
Freitas, Mary C.		3	
Cannon, Gerri D.		4	
Nutter-Upham, Frances E.		5	
Schapiro, Joe		6	
Merchant, Gary		7	
Murphy, James Michael		8	
Palmer, William S		9	
~~Tellez, Trinidad~~ PAIGE, DAVID		10	
TOTAL VOTE:			

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 574-FN-A

BILL TITLE: **re-establishing the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers Market Nutrition Program.**

DATE: **February 1, 2023**

LOB ROOM: **210-211** **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** **1:00 PM**

Time Adjourned: **1:40 PM**

Committee Members: Reps. W. MacDonald, Layon, B. King, Cushman, Kofalt, McLean, S. King, Mazur, Nagel, Polozov, Weber, MacKay, Cannon, Nutter-Upham, Schapiro, Merchant, J. Murphy, Palmer and Tellez

Bill Sponsors:
Rep. Wolf **Rep. Crawford** **Rep. Bordes**
Rep. Ebel

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. Dan Wolf - Prime Sponsor - Supports

- Connect farmers with the public

Q: Rep. Layon - Would this affect Federal funds?
A: Yes - win-win situation
Q: Rep. Tellez - Is this a 2 year program that expired?
A: Yes
Q: Rep. What does food instrument?
A: Ask those that know
Q: Rep. Merchant - Non-lapsing till 2024 - can we make it lapsing account and keep open until 2025?
A: Not opposed

Lissa Sirois - NH DHHS and DPHS - Informational

- $270,000 go directly to farmers
- $30,000 administration
- Food instrument - coupons/ QR code
- One time $30 fee to be redeemed
- Aimed at low income families

Q: Rep. Layon - Is there another way - most direct way of getting food to families without?
A: Yes - state options on website
Q: Rep. Merchant - What period is "one time"?
A: Lifetime of Market season
Q: Rep. Polozov - Does it provide milk and cheese?
A: Similar to WIC
Q: Rep. Polozov - Farmers opt in?
A: Yes
Q: Rep. Weber - Do we need to amend to keep to the dept?
A: Does not allow the coupon at a market
Q: Rep. Weber - More effective at farm stands - do we need to amend?
A: I need to research

Q: Rep. Kofalt - Vendor accept required/specialized equipment?
A: Farmers have to be approved/yes-looking at smart phones
Q: Rep. Merchant - Can local identify local farmer product?
A: No, not under Federal requirements

***Tiffany Dodier - NH Hunger Solutions - Supports**

Q: Rep. Tellez - Do you have a list of participating farmers?
A: Yes

***Eileen Liponis - NH Food Bank - Supports**

- Testimony is Morgan Morani
- Exposure to a healthy lifestyle
- 12% food insecure

Q: Rep. Weber - Participating farm stands
A: Yes
Q: Rep. Mazur - What happens to the money?
A: General fund - I suppose
Q: Rep. Kofalt - ?
A: Not what we do
Q: Rep. Nagel - $30 per season - is this symbolic or nutritional?
A: Nutritional
Q: Rep. Tellez - What does market match do?
A: Doubles the buying power if SNAP you can spend at market match

Morgan Morani - Supports
Not testimony noted in Eileen Liponis testimony

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Bill King, Clerk

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill #: HB574-FN Date: 2/1/23

Committee: HHS & EA

**** Please Print All Information ****

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	Pro	Con
Eileen Lipnis	700 East Industrial Dr. Manchester	669-9725	The NH Food Bank	✓	
Rep Laura Telesk	Hillsborough			X	
Tiffany Dodier	4 Grape St. Newmarket	603-670-3671	NH Hunger Solutions	✓	
Morgan Morani & Hideler	Dr. Deerfield	781-742-5747	NH Food Bank Seacoast Eat Local	✓	
Dawn McKinney			NH Legal Assistance	✓	
Laura Mullikin			NH Hunger Solutions NHHS	✓	
Megan Murray	Hills 37			✓	
Nancy Vaughan			American Heart Association	✓	
Elise Bolster	700 E Industrial Park Dr Manchester		NH Food Bank	✓	
Dellie Champagne			Save The Children Action Network	✓	
Courtney Tanner			Dartmouth Health	✓	
Jennifer Smith, MD			Self	✓	

House Remote Testify

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs Committee Testify List for Bill HB574 on 2023-02-01

Support: 20 Oppose: 0 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

Name	City, State Email Address	Title	Representing	Position	Testifying	Non-Germane	Signed Up
Gilman, Representative Julie	Exeter, NH julie.gilman@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Town of Exeter	Support	No	No	1/29/2023 10:41 PM
Harriott-Gathright, Linda	Nashua, NH Linda.harriottgathright@leg.state..Nh.us	An Elected Official	Constituents	Support	No	No	1/29/2023 10:47 PM
Hoey, Kathleen	Manchester, NH kmhoey@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2023 7:17 AM
Greyes, Natch	Concord, NH ngreyes@nhmunicipal.org	A Lobbyist	New Hampshire Municipal Association	Support	No	No	1/30/2023 9:09 AM
Raspiller, Cindy	Mont Vernon, NH raspicl@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2023 9:35 AM
Lindpaintner, Lyn	Concord, NH lynlin@bluewin.ch	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2023 11:00 AM
Roesener, James	Concord, NH James.Roesener@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2023 12:19 PM
Spier, Carry	Nashua 03064, NH carry.spier@hotmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2023 1:56 PM
Corell, Elizabeth	Concord, NH Elizabeth.j.corell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2023 7:53 PM
Davis, Gregory	Salem, NH glospreys@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2023 12:06 PM
Lim-Liberty, Frances	New London, NH francesblim@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2023 2:17 PM
Richardson, Daniel	Nashua, NH daniel6_22@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2023 2:24 PM
Kuenning, Keith	Concord, NH KuenningK@waypointnh.org	A Lobbyist	Waypoint	Support	No	No	1/31/2023 4:48 PM

Schuett, Dianne	Pembroke, NH dianne.schuett@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself and my constituents	Support	No	No	2/1/2023 4:02 AM
Johnson, II, Robert	Concord, NH robj@nhfarmbureau.org	A Lobbyist	NH Farm Bureau	Support	No	No	2/1/2023 7:52 AM
DeJoie, John	Concord, NH jdejoie@karnerbluestrategies.com	A Lobbyist	National Association of Social Workers - NH Chapter	Support	No	No	2/1/2023 9:05 AM
Allison, Suzanne	barnstead, NH suz.allison@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2023 10:12 AM
LaMontagne, Jessica	Dover, NH finnlamontagne@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2023 10:32 AM
Johnston, Janet	Franklin, NH oocsweety22@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2023 9:26 PM
Billingham, Carla	Salem, NH billingham2@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2023 10:22 PM

Cindy Raspiller

NA

Lyn Lindpaintner

,,,,,,,,

Jessica LaMontagne

This is a WIN-WIN program: great nutrition for WIC participants with locally grown fruits and vegetables, and support for local farmers. The latter need all the help they can get. Please vote OTP for this bill.,

NH HUNGER SOLUTIONS
ENDING HUNGER IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Official Website
www.nhhungersolutions.org

February 1, 2023

Representative Wayne MacDonald, Chair
House Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Re: HB 574-FN-A,re-establishing the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

Dear Representative MacDonald and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tiffany Brewster, and I am the Community Engagement Director speaking on behalf of NH Hunger Solutions, a non-profit that seeks to end hunger in NH. Part of my role is to coordinate the NH Food Access Coalition, a statewide group composed of nonprofits, research institutions, medical organizations, state agencies, and businesses across NH's food system. Since the outset of the pandemic, this group has advocated for policies that improve access to nutritious food for all New Hampshire's people.

Today we submit this testimony on behalf of our partners to state our strong support of Senate Bill 403, re-establishing the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers Market Nutrition Program. This bill supports an evidence-based strategy to connect more women and young children to fresh, locally grown produce while supporting our farmers and bolstering local economies.

A large part of my day-to-day work includes collaborating with organizations across the state to address hunger in NH. It is because of the increased connectedness of NH organizations working to end hunger that we know this is the right time to re-establish the WIC FMNP. We now have the infrastructure in the state to support the administration thanks to programs like Granite State Market Match, which you will hear testimony about today as a viable model for the WIC FMNP. We have a growing list of over 300 partners in all corners of the state where we endeavor to support the development of local food access coalitions. These coalitions make possible widespread campaigns to promote the use of WIC FMNP and education about the importance of eating fresh and eating local to our individual health and the health of our local economy.

Phone. 603-225-2264
Email. info@nhhungersolutions.org
Address. 100 N Main St, Suite 400, Concord, NH 03301

NH HUNGER SOLUTIONS
ENDING HUNGER IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Official Website
www.nhhungersolutions.org

This bill is important now because increasing numbers of our neighbors report having trouble securing adequate nutrition, over 70,000 NH adults as of January. Relatedly, The U.S. Department of Labor reported an over 6% rise in food costs in the last 12 months - this calls for measures that keep fresh produce affordable for our most vulnerable people. This bill does that while also helping NH farmers.

As a registered dietitian and an expectant mother, I know the importance of fresh produce intake to young children and pregnant women for optimal growth and development. We also know earlier exposure to fresh fruits and vegetables leads to greater consumption as older children, thus contributing to overall health in our children and less strain on our healthcare system. We have the infrastructure to support the administration of a WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program and should take advantage of that.

A final point to remember is what is known as the multiplier effect. Every federal dollar spent on food purchases, through WIC or SNAP, for example, has been shown to generate at least $1.50 in local economic activity. NH residents purchase food from farmers, who use that money to support their business by purchasing supplies from others, and so on.

This bill represents a thoughtful, conservative and innovative investment in the health of our mothers and children, and local farms and farmers, as well. I urge the Committee to recommend HB574 ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Brewster, MPH, MS, RD
NH Hunger Solutions
Community Engagement Director
tbrewster@nhhungersolutions.org
603-225-2264 x102

SUPPORT

HB574 re-establishing the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program



WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)

WHAT IS IT?

- This program provides coupons to WIC participants to buy fresh, unprepared, locally grown fruits and vegetables from state agency approved farmers, farmers' markets or roadside stands (1)
- **Federal funds support 100 percent of the food costs** and 70 percent of the administrative costs of the program

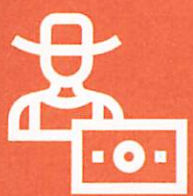
WHAT WILL IT DO?

- The bill appropriates $300,000 for administration and enhancement of the WIC FMNP, providing an additional $30 benefit to be used at farmers' markets
- The state match will draw down federal funds determined annually from federal budget appropriations
- The bill will improve the awareness, use of, and sales at farmers' markets

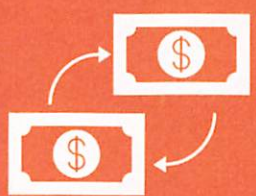
WHY NOW?

- Farmers' market infrastructure now exists in the state to support the program administration
- There is now increased interest among farmers and recipients in the program
- **Dept of Labor just reported an over 6% rise in food costs in last 12 months - this calls for helping people stretch their benefit dollars and does so locally while helping farmers**
- Allowing federal nutrition program participants to spend dollars at farmers' markets may be one way to increase market share for farmers by connecting them to new customers

(1) WIC is a federally funded nutrition program for *pregnant and postpartum women, infants and children up to age 5 that has been shown to not only improve their health of women, infants and children but does so cost effectively.



Benefits farmers and communities



Benefits the local economy with $1.50 activity for every $1 spent



Benefits NH women and children with improved diets and health

February 1, 2023

Representative Wayne MacDonald, Chair
House Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Re: HB 574-FN-A, re-establishing the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

Dear Representative MacDonald and Members of the Committee,

My name is Morgan Morani and I'm the Food Access Coordinator with Seacoast Eat Local as well as the SNAP Nutrition Incentive Coordinator at the New Hampshire Food Bank. Seacoast Eat Local is a regional non-profit located out of Lee, NH that among other programming operates 6 farmers markets within the Seacoast region of New Hampshire. Along with market management, we administer SNAP/EBT and SNAP incentive services via the program Granite State Market Match at these locations as well as other markets and farm store locations in Strafford and Rockingham counties. At the Food Bank, I also assist in coordinating the SNAP incentive programs Granite State Market Match and Double up Food Bucks for the state of New Hampshire. Through my tenure at both these non-profits, I have worked closely with both farmers and low income individuals.

Though the SNAP population does not necessarily consist of the same demographic as the WIC population (there are definitely overlaps), the program in which we are speaking in favor of today is similar to the SNAP incentives we are able to offer at these markets and sites across the state of NH. Bringing the ability to spend any form of WIC at farmers markets to the state of New Hampshire will allow us to make a similar impact to families, farmers, and the local economy as SNAP incentives currently do for that population. By the way, we are the only state in the United States that is not offering some form of this program at farmers markets.

This one time $30 allotment to WIC participants and families, will introduce a new pool of customers who have not shopped at these markets historically for farmers. These farmers are frequently donating vegetables to the charitable food system at the end of markets and not selling out of their produce due to a decrease in overall traffic over the course of the pandemic. Returning to how SNAP incentives could have a relatively similar impact, in the state of New Hampshire, we saw a total of $70,715 in SNAP and incentives redeemed at farmers market and farm sites in Strafford and Rockingham counties alone in 2022. Of that $70,715, $42,187 were fruit and vegetable incentives that went directly into the pockets of New Hampshire farmers. SNAP recipients that have participated in programming across local food access sites have frequently returned even after they no longer had SNAP funds to spend. Programs like these allow for the development of lasting and healthy relationships with local farms and participants of these programs further supporting our local farmers, economy and the health of Granite Staters.

Because I know firsthand the positive and important impacts of this program on the health and wellbeing of one of our most vulnerable New Hampshire populations, I urge the Committee to recommend HB 574 ought to pass.

Respectfully submitted,

Morgan Morani
Food Access Coordinator
Seacoast Eat Local
(207)387-0567

HB 574-FN-A - AS INTRODUCED

2023 SESSION

23-0391
08/05

HOUSE BILL ***574-FN-A***

AN ACT re-establishing the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

SPONSORS: Rep. Wolf, Merr. 7; Rep. Crawford, Carr. 3; Rep. Bordes, Belk. 5; Rep. Ebel, Merr. 7

COMMITTEE: Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill re-establishes the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

- -

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics.***
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

HB 574-FN-A - AS INTRODUCED

23-0391
08/05

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

AN ACT re-establishing the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 New Section; Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program. Amend RSA 132 by inserting after section 12-e the following new section:

132:12-f WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program. There is established in the department of health and human services the New Hampshire Farmers' Market Nutrition Program for participants in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). The program shall distribute food instruments to eligible WIC participants to redeem for locally grown fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs at authorized New Hampshire farmers' markets in compliance with 7 C.F.R. 248 that are redeemable only at designated New Hampshire farmers' markets. The commissioner shall adopt rules under RSA 541-A to implement this program.

2 Appropriation; WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program. There is hereby appropriated to the department of health and human services the sum of $300,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, which shall be nonlapsing, for the purpose of funding the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program in RSA 132:12-f. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sum out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

LBA
23-0391
1/9/23

HB 574-FN-A- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT re-establishing the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

FISCAL IMPACT: [X] State [ ] County [ ] Local [ ] None

	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
STATE:	**FY 2023**	**FY 2024**	**FY 2025**	**FY 2026**
Appropriation	$0	$300,000	$0	$0
Revenue	$0	$0	$0	$0
Expenditures	$0	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase
Funding Source:	[X] General	[ ] Education	[ ] Highway	[ ] Other

METHODOLOGY:

This bill establishes a NH farmer's market program for participants in the women, infants, and children (WIC) nutrition program. The program will supply locally grown fresh produce to WIC participants through the distribution of vouchers redeemable at designated NH farmers' markets. The bill contains a nonlapsing general fund appropriation of $300,000 for this purpose in FY24. The Department of Health and Human Services states that the appropriation could be used to provide one-time benefit to the estimated 11,977 low-income women and children enrolled in the WIC program.

The Department anticipates needing a 0.25 full-time equivalent (FTE) Program Assistant II position (labor grade 15) in order to administer the new program. The pro-rated cost of this position, including benefits and miscellaneous expenses, is estimated at $17,000 in FY24, $17,800 in FY25, and $18,500 in FY26.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Health and Human Services