



2024 Legislative Priorities

- ◆ Support critical funding for current agricultural animal health (such as the Avian Disease Program), promotion, research, and environmental programs in the final FY 24/25 state budget.
 - ◆ Support renewable energy policies that incorporate common sense time frames for adoption based upon grid capacity and the practical realities of electrification of New York State.
 - ◆ Continue funding support the Nourish-NY program to help farmers provide local, healthy food to underserved and food-insecure communities in the state.
 - ◆ Oppose legislation that prohibits the use of agricultural chemical protectants and support DEC's regulatory authority over pesticide registration in accordance with sound science.
 - ◆ Support legislation allowing direct to consumer shipping for all New York-produced farm beverages, including beer, cider, and distillates.
 - ◆ Oppose Extended Producer Responsibility legislation that doesn't require consumer responsibility for packaging they receive and doesn't unduly burden New York's food and wine manufacturing businesses. We support establishing an infrastructure and market for recycled plastics that is incentive based and economically viable, especially in rural areas. To address these issues we support exploring an expansion of the current bottle bill statute.
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◆ Incentivize more locally produced food purchases by public entities without values-based purchasing requirements.

◆ We support addressing transportation issues to facilitate the shipment of food products and farm equipment in New York State, including:

- A limit on how many times commercial vehicles have to stop at a DOT inspection checkpoint in a certain time period, especially if that vehicle is carrying livestock, fish, bees, or other perishable commodities.
- An exemption from CDL for farm owners and employees hauling farm equipment or produce within 150 miles of a farm without an F or G endorsement, similar to exemptions in other states.

◆ Target federal and state infrastructure funding for rural roads, bridges and broadband.

◆ Ensure that the Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health continue to regulate water quality standards in accordance with federal law.

◆ Support full funding of the Healthy School Meals For All program.



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