



New York Farm Bureau
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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Senate Bill 1089 (Senator Comrie) / Assembly Bill A1012 (Assemblyman Stürpe)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PUBLIC AUTHORITIES LAW, IN RELATION TO ALLOWING THE NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE A DISCOUNTED TOLL RATE TO FARMERS TRANSPORTING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Date: 4/19/2024

New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest general farm organization, would like to express its support for this legislation. This bill would allow the New York state thruway authority to provide a discounted toll rate to farmers transporting agricultural products.

The increase in tolls as of January 1 has increased the costs of transporting NY produced goods, and this bill would offer a 50% discount to farmers when transporting their farm products. This would go a long way in helping farmers be able to continue to transport their products to food desserts and urban farmers markets without having to increase costs. This bill would support not only farmers but those who want to buy locally by helping keep the cost of local foods down.

In the interest of supporting New York's family farms and improving access to New York grown food across the state, New York Farm Bureau respectfully requests you support and cosponsor this legislation as well as urge its inclusion in your One-House Budget.