

# NEWS...

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*... from the Illinois House of Representatives*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 15, 2014

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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## **Rep. Fine Supports Efforts to Streamline Regulation of Farmers' Markets**

**GLENVIEW, Ill.** – As the summer season approaches, state Rep. Laura Fine, D-Glenview, recently helped pass legislation to ensure communities have vibrant farmers' markets that are not overly burdened with inconsistent regulations.

“Each summer people from around our community enjoy visiting our local farmer’s market for the freshest produce and homemade goods,” Fine said. “Unfortunately, the many regulations imposed on vendors have become confusing and burdensome. This proposal cleans up and streamlines existing rules, making it simpler for farmers to participate.”

Over time, the guidelines governing farmers' markets have been created by the state and local municipalities, without any coordination and consistency. House Bill 5657 aims to address this problem by streamlining current regulations and creating standards for farmers' markets across the state. The legislation outlines the ways local municipalities and health departments may regulate local farmers, and creates a task force to develop additional recommendations on how the state can better support local farmers' markets.

“Local farmers and small businesses face many challenges,” Fine said. “This comprehensive reform will make it easier for vendors to expand their businesses by participating in farmers' markets in multiple communities while protecting consumers.

House Bill 5657 now goes to the state Senate for further consideration. For more information, please contact Fine’s full-time constituent services office by calling 847-998-1717 or by emailing RepFine@gmail.com.

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