

**U.S. Conference of Mayor's Resolution**  
**Reforming America's Agricultural Policy**

**USCM Los Angeles Annual Meeting**  
**June 22-25, 2007**

**Co-sponsors**

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg  
Mayor of New York

The Honorable Frank Cownie  
Mayor of Des Moines

The Honorable Richard Daley  
Mayor of Chicago

The Honorable Ronald Dellums  
Mayor of Oakland

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Mayor of San Francisco

The Honorable James Humphrey  
Mayor of Ft. Meyers

The Honorable Manuel Diaz  
Mayor of Miami

The Honorable Dan Furtado  
Mayor of Campbell, CA

The Honorable David Cicilline  
Mayor of Providence

The Honorable Sharon Goldsworthy  
Mayor of Germantown, TN

The Honorable David Coss  
Mayor of Santa Fe, NM

The Honorable Theresa Estness  
City of Wauwatosa, Wis.

**REFORMING AMERICA'S AGRICULTURAL POLICY**

WHEREAS, Mayors are committed to supporting agricultural reforms in the 2007 Farm Bill that will improve the health and protect the environment of all Americans through significantly strengthening Federal nutrition programs, improving access to healthy food for low income Americans, promoting environmental stewardship and conservation, and protecting our food supply; and

WHEREAS, there are major concerns about food and farming issues that affect the health of citizens in urban America because of increased levels of hunger and food insecurity in low-income populations, lack of access to healthy food in low income areas, chronic diseases related to poor diet such as obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases; and

WHEREAS, there are major environmental concerns that impact residents arising from distribution of agricultural products distributed through an inefficient food supply transportation network which contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, and agricultural dependence on pesticides and chemically intensive production that contributes to air and

water pollution, and dramatic losses of prime agricultural land in certain states due to urban sprawl, which threatens the preservation and protection of urban water sheds; and

WHEREAS, a strong agriculture conservation program in which city water utilities are full partners is critical to reducing the environmental impact of farming and to protecting watersheds and urban drinking water supplies; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports the promotion of healthy diets for all residents, including strengthening incentives and infrastructure to encourage more fruit/vegetable production, organic farming, better access to fresh foods and investment in programs promoting healthy food, expansion of programs that help communities invest in retail markets, food-based businesses and increasing access to farmers markets, farm-to-cafeteria programs that bring the freshest, locally grown food into school lunch programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports increasing the minimum food stamp benefits, revising asset limits, removing the residency cap for legal non-citizens, simplifying the application and renewal process of the food stamp program, and developing incentives to encourage food stamp recipients to increase their consumption of fruits and vegetables; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED RESOVLED that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports strengthening The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), and fully funding the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the U.S. Conference of Mayors urges Congress to strengthen and expand agriculture conservation programs as a strategic investment in our country's agricultural infrastructure, including improving air and water quality and the protection of urban water sheds, to sufficiently fund agriculture conservation programs and make water utility watershed management programs eligible for funding under the Partnerships and Cooperation Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the U.S. Conference of Mayors supports investments in infrastructure, entrepreneurship programs and facilities that process, distribute and develop value-added products using locally-grown commodities purchased from small and mid-sized local farmers to meet the demand for local, healthy food.