HOUSE BILL 217 ALASKA GROVVN REPRESENTATIVE GERAN TARR



- First state to pass policy was Wyoming in 2015
 - "Wyoming has had roaring success[,] and we continue to capitalize on those aspects," Lindholm tells me, "in fact the Agriculture committee for the State of Wyoming will spend the summer studying ways to expand on the Food Freedom Act." (Wyoming State Rep. Tyler Lindholm (R))
- Bills have been considered in Utah, Maine, Colorado,
 Virginia
 - "Food Freedom means more small farms." (Virginia Food Freedom)
- Alaska Farm Bureau \$5 Alaska Challenge could raise
 \$180 million for Alaska economy

A FOOD **FREEDOM** MOVEMENT IS GROWING **ACROSS THE** UNITED **STATES** AND LOCALLY

SUPPORTING ALASKA GROWN PRODUCTS



Increase direct producer to consumer sales

2

Support entrepreneurs

3

Create more opportunities for small scale producers



Strengthen our local food systems



Grow our local economies

HOUSE BILL 217 DOES THREE THINGS

- Gives farmers freedom from some civil liability for farm tours
- Gives DNR receipt authority for Alaska Grown logo
- Gives state, school districts and municipalities more flexibility to purchase Alaska grown produce - 15% procurement differential



ALASKA FARMERS MARKET SALES

\$1.25 MILLION FAIRBANKS \$500,000 HOMER \$100,000 KODIAK \$19,000 MT. VIEW



in revenue earned. Those not

Locally-owned retailers, such as

farmers markets, return more

than three times as much of

compared to chain competitors.

Locally-owned

their sales to the local economy

selling locally create 3.

The U.S. loses an acre of farmland a minute to development.

The **7** Seattle farmers markets

hosted by the Neighborhood Farmers Market Alliance support **9,491 acres of farmland** in diversified production.

25% of vendors derive their sole source of



Increase Access to Fresh Food

\$20.2 million

Support Healthy Communities

Number of

Farmers Market Directory

markets in the USDA

in SNAP benefits (food stamps) were spent at farmers markets in 2016. That's fresh food for low-income Americans and increased revenue for local farmers.

60% of farmers market shoppers in low-income neighborhoods say that **their market had better prices than the grocery store.**

Markets bring fresh food to the neighborhoods that need it most.



Proximity to farmers markets is associated with lower body mass index.

local\$



INVITED TESTIMONY

ALASKA FARM BUREAU HOMER FARMERS MARKET