

Anna Markow  
Brunswick  
LD 415

Dear members of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry.

My name is Anna Markow, I am a resident of Brunswick, and I am writing today as a farm worker and farmer's market customer to express my support of LD 468 – An Act to Address Food Insecurity by Helping Maine Residents Access Locally Produced Food.

Farmer's markets are frequently stereotyped as an upper class privilege, but our community of farmers believe that everyone deserves access to fresh, healthy local food, regardless of income. Those who have less should not be punished by denying access to the best possible quality food. I am delighted every single time I accept Harvest Bucks or any supplemental payment for our produce, because I know the food I work very hard to grow is getting to the people who need it most. I spent years of my life cooking in upscale restaurants where I myself could not afford to eat, and my transition to farming as a second career is driven by the urge to feed EVERYONE.