

Elizabeth Trehu
Vienna
LD 468

Testimony of Elizabeth Trehu of Vienna before the 132st Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

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

My name is Elizabeth Trehu, I am a resident of Vienna, and I am here today as someone who buys 90% of my food at Farmers markets and directly from local farmers to express my support of LD 468 – An Act to Address Food Insecurity by Helping Maine Residents Access Locally Produced Food.

We are fortunate here in Maine to have wonderful farms selling high quality, healthy, delicious food, including eggs, which are so scarce and expensive in supermarkets but readily available from local farms. I buy all my produce, meat, and dairy products at The Belgrade Lakes Farmers Market and Levesque Family Farm in Leeds in the summer, at the Brunswick Farmers Market and 6 River Farm in Bowdoinham in the winter, and year-round from Flying Pond Farm in Vienna, Whitewater Farm store and Pine Tree poultry in New Sharon, and Kennebec Cheesery in Sydney. I am fortunate that I am able to afford to do this and believe that people with more limited incomes should also be able to benefit from food that is super fresh and so much tastier than anything you can buy in the supermarket. As public services of many kinds are being threatened, we need to make sure that our people have enough healthy food to eat. By using Maine Harvest Bucks, families can enjoy better food and support our wonderful farmers, keeping our agricultural economy strong and thriving.