



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB3716

Introduced 2/18/2025, by Rep. Rita Mayfield

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

20 ILCS 205/205-455 new

Amends the Department of Agriculture Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Requires the Department of Agriculture to create a grant program to award grants of up to \$250,000, subject to appropriation, to cover the costs and labor of any qualified applicant farmer to distribute healthy, free food to expectant mothers in need who reside in the same county or in a municipality within 20 miles of the farmer's farm, with certain requirements. Requires the Department to adopt rules. Defines terms.

LRB104 11228 BDA 21310 b

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Department of Agriculture Law of the Civil  
5 Administrative Code of Illinois is amended by adding Section  
6 205-455 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 205/205-455 new)

8 Sec. 205-455. Local farmer grant program for expectant  
9 mothers in need.

10 (a) In this Section:

11 "Expectant mother" means an individual who is pregnant.

12 "Expectant mother in need" means an expectant mother whose  
13 household income does not exceed 200% of the poverty  
14 guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by the  
15 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the  
16 authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2).

17 "Farmer" means a person who owns or manages a farm.

18 "Farm" means the main place of business of the farmer,  
19 where the farmer is engaged in agriculture, raising living  
20 organisms for food.

21 (b) Subject to appropriation, the Department shall, by  
22 rule, create a grant program to award grants of up to \$250,000  
23 to cover the costs and labor of any qualified applicant farmer

1 to distribute healthy, free food to expectant mothers in need  
2 who reside in the same county or in a municipality within 20  
3 miles of the farmer's farm. The Department shall determine  
4 that the applicant is a qualified applicant if the following  
5 are all true:

6 (1) The applicant is a farmer.

7 (2) The applicant has a feasible plan for the  
8 distribution of health, free, and local food produced by  
9 the farmer to expectant mothers in need in the same county  
10 or in a municipality within 20 miles of the farmer's farm,  
11 in the determination of the Department.

12 (3) The applicant is a trustworthy individual or  
13 business, in the determination of the Department.

14 (4) All other requirements set by rule by the  
15 Department have been met by the applicant.

16 (c) The Department shall adopt rules to implement this  
17 Section.