

1 AN ACT concerning vegetable garden protection.

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

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Garden
5 Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose. The Act's purpose is to encourage and
7 protect the sustainable cultivation of fresh produce at all
8 levels of production, including on residential property for
9 personal consumption or non-commercial sharing.

10 Section 10. Vegetable garden defined. As used in this Act,
11 the term "vegetable garden" means any plot of ground or
12 elevated soil bed on residential property where vegetables,
13 herbs, fruits, flowers, pollinator plants, leafy greens, or
14 other edible plants are cultivated.

15 Section 15. Right to cultivate vegetable gardens.
16 Notwithstanding any other law, any person may cultivate
17 vegetable gardens on their own property, or on the private
18 property of another with the permission of the owner, in any
19 county, municipality, or other political subdivision of this
20 State.

1 Section 20. Home rule. A home rule unit may not regulate
2 gardens in a manner inconsistent with this Act. This Section
3 is a limitation under subsection (i) of Section 6 of Article
4 VII of the Illinois Constitution on the concurrent exercise by
5 home rule units of powers and functions exercised by the
6 State.

7 Section 25. State and local regulation still permitted.
8 Section 20 of this Act notwithstanding, this Act does not
9 preclude the adoption of a regulation or local ordinance of
10 general nature that does not specifically regulate vegetable
11 gardens, including, but not limited to, regulations and
12 ordinances relating to height, setback, water use, fertilizer
13 use, or control of invasive or unlawful species, provided that
14 any such regulation or ordinance does not have the effect of
15 precluding vegetable gardens.