



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Kenneth P. LaValle

## Senator Ken LaValle Reports “Buy From The Backyard” Act Passes Senate

KENNETH P. LAVALLE June 16, 2014

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### Legislation aims to boost local agricultural purchases

June 16, 2014 – Senator Ken LaValle reported that the “Buy From The Backyard” legislation has passed the NY Senate. The measure supported by Senator LaValle aims to require state government agencies to allocate 20% of their contracts from companies located in New York State.

“This legislation is important for all our food growers and processors, especially on Long Island. By requiring State government to purchase items from our local businesses, it helps strengthen the agricultural market, bolster the local economy and help maintain jobs.” said Senator LaValle. “By making this measure law, New York State can demonstrate its commitment to agriculture and recognize its importance to our economy.”

Agriculture remains one of the top industries in New York State. The “Buy From The Backyard Act” (S.978) expands upon an existing law by encouraging the purchase of local food products by state agencies. These inevitable purchases by state agencies will provide a boost to the economy. The act will require state institutions with food contracts to have at least 20 percent of their purchases be grown, produced, harvested or processed in New York

State. The bill has been sent to the Assembly for consideration.

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