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### **Farmers Market Coalition Statement on Opposition to House 2018 Farm Bill**

May 7, 2018 - The Farmers Market Coalition (FMC), a national non-profit dedicated to strengthening farmers markets for the benefit of farmers, consumers, and communities, has joined more than 370 organizations in opposition of the House 2018 Farm Bill.

While FMC is pleased by the increased support for the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive (FINI) program, we are greatly disappointed to see mandatory funding stripped from the Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program (FMLFPP), a program proven to boost sales for independent American farmers, improve access to fresh, locally grown food, and stimulate rural, agricultural economies.

“Without mandatory funding for the Farmers Market Promotion Program, the Farmers Market Coalition cannot support this bill in its current form,” said Jen Cheek, FMC Executive Director. FMC urges congress to reinstate full mandatory funding for FMLFPP, and looks forward to a farm bill that supports independent farmers and their markets with enthusiasm.

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*The Farmers Market Coalition (FMC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to strengthening farmers markets for the benefit of farmers, consumers, and communities. For more information about the Farmers Market Coalition, visit [www.farmersmarketcoalition.org](http://www.farmersmarketcoalition.org)*