

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 932

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the new downtown Austin Farmers' Market, which provides residents with locally grown, fresh, and nutritious produce and other products in a pleasant and friendly setting at Republic Square Park and Fourth Street; and

WHEREAS, The Sustainable Food Center has recruited more than 50 local farmers and other vendors to participate in its Austin Farmers' Market; it is estimated the project will enhance economic growth in the downtown area with increased sales of more than \$260,000 and additional tax revenues of more than \$20,000; and

WHEREAS, The Austin Farmers' Market will assist a modest number of entrepreneurs in beginning or expanding their businesses; it will also create commercial opportunities for regional small-scale farmers who practice good stewardship of the land and water in Central Texas; and

WHEREAS, It is projected that the market will generate an additional \$477,000 in direct and indirect benefits for approximately 60 farmers and small business vendors from the surrounding rural communities and lower income neighborhoods, and that it will be fully self-supporting within several years; and

WHEREAS, This vital new marketplace will have a positive influence on public perceptions about the downtown area of Austin and create a friendly, safe, and enjoyable weekly community event for residents of all cultures; and

WHEREAS, To teach Austin residents the benefits of healthy diets, the market will offer demonstrations in nutritious cooking; as one of the Women, Infants, and Children Farmers' Market Nutrition Program redemption sites, the market will also benefit low-income families, who will be able to obtain more fresh fruits and vegetables for their young children; and

WHEREAS, Committed to selling locally produced products in an amiable community setting, the Austin Farmers' Market is a valuable asset to local and area residents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby commend the sponsors and supporters of the Austin Farmers' Market for their contributions to the community and extend best wishes for much future success to all associated with the project; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the many individuals associated with this endeavor as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Barrientos

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 21, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate