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WINTHROP, MAINE - Right to Food for Maine is pleased to announce the release of a statement of support from the [National Family Farm Coalition \(NFFC\)](#). Representing 30 farmer, rancher, fisher, and rural groups in more than 40 states, including [Food for Maine's Future](#), NFFC mobilizes family farmers and ranchers to achieve fair prices, vibrant communities, and healthy foods free of corporate domination.

NFFC board president Jim Goodman, a retired Wisconsin dairy farmer, said, "It's a simple and straightforward choice. The people of Maine can affirm that they have the unalienable right to the food of their choosing, produced in a manner that builds resilient local food systems and economically vibrant communities. Alternatively, if Ballot Question 3 fails, Mainers surrender their right of self-determination to a corporate food system concerned only with profits and not with the well-being of the people of Maine."

This endorsement for Mainers to **Vote YES on 3** from a venerated national farming organization reinforces what Right to Food for Maine has believed since Senator Craig Hickman introduced the Right to Food constitutional amendment to the Legislature for the first time six years ago: the time is now for Maine to lead nation.

Maine imports more than 90% of the food Mainers consume and has the highest rate of hunger in New England. One if four Maine children goes to bed hungry every night. Maine is at the end of the line. If the trucks stop coming, grocery stores only have a four-day-supply of food. The COVID19 pandemic has revealed just how susceptible Maine's food supply is to disruptions beyond our control. And so, under the leadership of Rep. Billy Bob Faulkingham, who introduced this iteration of the amendment, [more than 75% of the Maine Legislature](#) considered Right to Food a crucial part of increasing food security and food self-sufficiency for the Maine people and voted to send this amendment to the ballot box for us to ratify in the Referendum Election on November 2.

When Mainers **Vote YES on 3**, the following language will be included in the Constitution of Maine's Declaration of Rights, becoming the first state in the nation to enumerate a Right to Food:

Section 25. Right to food. All individuals have a natural, inherent and unalienable right to food, including the right to save and exchange seeds and the right to grow, raise, harvest, produce and consume the food of their own choosing for their own nourishment, sustenance, bodily health and well-being, as long as an individual does not commit trespassing, theft, poaching or other abuses of private property rights, public lands or natural resources in the harvesting, production or acquisition of food.

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Right to Food. Right for ME. Vote YES on Question 3.