



- 1 (d) economic development specialists;
- 2 (e) food systems experts;
- 3 (f) tribal government representatives; and
- 4 (g) representatives with expertise in food systems and national security;
- 5 (2) study the current economic impact of farmer's markets in Montana;
- 6 (3) review barriers to growth and opportunities for farmer's market improvement, including
- 7 analyzing infrastructure, market access, regulatory frameworks, and statutory definitions;
- 8 (4) study the impact, opportunities, and challenges of the Montana Local Food Choice Act, as
- 9 provided in Title 50, chapter 49, part 2, MCA, and the state cottage food laws provided in Title 50, chapter 50,
- 10 MCA;
- 11 (5) study the role of farmer's markets in advancing food security and nutrition, especially in
- 12 underserved areas;
- 13 (6) review contributions of farmer's markets to local and regional food system resilience, focusing
- 14 on national security concerns related to food supply disruptions;
- 15 (7) review current statutes governing consumer protection and liability for food producers and
- 16 markets;
- 17 (8) study potential collaborations between local governments, nonprofit organizations, and private
- 18 entities to support farmer's markets; and
- 19 (9) study strategies to integrate farmer's markets into broader rural and community development
- 20 initiatives.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review

22 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2026.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,

24 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 70th legislature.

25 - END -