State Farm to School Legislative Trends

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Types of state policies

- Reimbursement for local procurement
- Funding for other farm to school activities and staff
  - Farm to School Coordinators
  - Educational programming, gardens
- Regulatory changes to support farm to school
  - Small purchase thresholds
  - Food safety restrictions
  - Local procurement preference
- Setting the stage for policy
  - Developing food policy councils or task forces
  - Farm to school week/month proclamations
Trends in 2014

- New offices, councils or taskforces
- Focus on aggregation, processing and distribution of local foods (e.g. food hubs)
- School gardens
- Support through proclamations and resolutions
What’s Happened This Year

- Oregon: .05 reimbursement for school meals
- New Mexico: Over $350,000 for local products
- Louisiana: Small purchase threshold to federal level, Urban ag incentives
- Hawaii: Farm to School Coordinator in Dept. of Ag and official Farm to School program
- Arkansas: Governor’s proclamation in support of farm to school
What’s Next?

• Next farm to school state policy report due Fall 2016
• Growing emphasis on local and institutional policy