

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**MARYLAND HOMEGROWN SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK**

**SEPTEMBER 17-21, 2012**

- WHEREAS,** Many of our children live in a world where things are readily available and often believe that fruits, vegetables and other food products come from a shelf in the supermarket rather than a farm; and
- WHEREAS,** Agriculture is a leading industry in Maryland with great opportunity for expanding sales of healthy, wholesome, farm-raised and locally-made products for school lunches; and
- WHEREAS,** Childhood obesity is a growing concern throughout the United States and Maryland and fresh fruits and vegetables are excellent sources of nutrients and can contribute to an overall healthier diet; and
- WHEREAS,** Our children are our future consumers and decision makers, and when they understand the importance of farming and healthy food today, they can make decisions tomorrow that are the most advantageous for the farming community, our environment, the economy and public health for the future; and
- WHEREAS,** The Jane Lawton Farm-to-School Bill and the Homegrown School Lunch Week, provide a nexus for these issues and their solutions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim SEPTEMBER 17 - 21, 2012 as MARYLAND HOMEGROWN SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 17th day of September  
Two Thousand and twelve

*Martin O'Malley*  
Governor

*Robert Ehrlich*  
Lt. Governor

*John C. McRay*  
Secretary of State