

Comment Info: =====

General Comment: I became aware of these regulations concerning safeguarding vegetables that you are considering implementing through a local farmer I buy some of my food from. He said that these proposed regulations would put him at a disadvantage compared to larger farms, and I strongly oppose anything that is a movement away from local business towards larger business. From my understanding, locality is sanity, since anything large-scale consolidates wealth into the hands a few people and impoverishes communities, whereas keeping everything local encourages healthy, robust communities that have many people with many different skills and all kinds of knowledge, as well as involving real human relationships. This concept shouldn't be foreign; there is a national debate concerning keeping jobs in American, as opposed to outsourcing them to other countries. I'm just proposing scaling this down even further so as to encourage self-sufficient communities that cannot be taken advantage of by psychotic businessman.

The concept of locality was a principle of Gandhi's termed Swadeshi. According to a Wikipedia article on it, Gandhi stated, "Swadeshi is that spirit in us which requires us to serve our immediate neighbours before others, and to use things produced in our neighbourhood in preference to those more remote. So doing, we serve humanity to the best of our capacity. We cannot serve humanity by neglecting our neighbours".

I doubt the goal of this regulation is to put local farmers at a disadvantage, but since it very well might, I propose that this solution isn't viable and would do more harm than good. As an alternative, I would propose encouraging buying food from local farmers whom you know and trust.