

SENATE BILL NO. 287

BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS AND REPRESENTATIVES CHASSION AND KNOX

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact 3:296(D)(1),(2), and (3), relative to the Healthy Food Retail Act; to
3 provide relative to a financing program; to provide relative to contracts with
4 qualified nonprofit organizations or community development financial institutions;
5 to provide relative to funding for eligible projects; to provide for funding on a
6 competitive basis; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 3:296(D)(1), (2), and (3) are hereby amended and reenacted to read
9 as follows:

10 §296. Healthy Food Retail Act; definitions; purpose

11 * * *

12 D. (1) ~~To the extent funds are available, the~~ The Louisiana Department of
13 Agriculture and Forestry, in cooperation with public and private sector partners, shall
14 establish a financing program that provides grants and loans to healthy food retailers
15 that increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables and other affordable healthy food
16 in underserved communities.

17 (2) The department ~~may~~ shall contract with one or more qualified nonprofit
18 organizations or community development financial institutions to administer the
19 program described in this Section through a public-private partnership, to raise
20 matching funds, market the program statewide, evaluate applicants, make award
21 decisions, underwrite loans, and monitor compliance and impact. The department
22 and its partners shall coordinate with complementary nutrition assistance and
23 education programs.

