By the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States of America

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS farmers and ranchers provide Americans with access to healthy foods produced locally and regionally through farmers markets, which are expanding and evolving to accommodate the demand for a diverse array of agricultural products; and

WHEREAS farmers markets and other agricultural direct marketing outlets provide infrastructure to assist in the distribution of farm and value-added products, thereby contributing approximately $9 billion each year to the United States economy; and

WHEREAS farmers markets serve as significant outlets for small-to-medium, new and beginning, and veteran agricultural producers to market agricultural products, in turn generating revenue that supports the sustainability of family farms and the revitalization of rural communities nationwide; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Department of Agriculture recognizes the importance of expanding agricultural marketing opportunities that assist and encourage the next generation of farmers and ranchers; generate farm income to help stimulate business development and job creation; and build community connections through rural and urban linkages;

NOW, THEREFORE, to further awareness of farmers markets’ contributions to American life, I, Sonny Perdue, Secretary of Agriculture, do hereby proclaim the week of August 2 – 8, 2020, as National Farmers Market Week. I call upon the American people to celebrate farmers markets with appropriate observances and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 2nd day of August, the two-hundred forty-fourth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

SONNY PERDUE
Secretary