

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 175

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR LOUDON.

Pre-filed December 4, 2002, and 1,000 copies ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

0392S.021

AN ACT

To amend chapter 192, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a food recovery program.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 192, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 192.081, to read as follows:

192.081. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Canned food", food that is commercially processed in hermetically sealed containers;

(2) "Donor", any restaurant, cafeteria, fast food restaurant, delicatessen, or other facility principally engaged in selling food for consumption on the premises;

(3) "Food", any raw, cooked, canned, perishable, or prepared edible substance, ice, beverage, or ingredient used or intended for use in whole or in part for human consumption;

(4) "Hermetically sealed container", a container that is designed and intended to be secure against the entry of microorganisms and thereby to maintain the commercial sterility of its content after processing;

(5) "Perishable food", any food having a significant risk of spoilage, loss of value, or loss of palatability within ninety days of the date of packaging;

(6) "Prepared food", any food prepared, designed, or intended for human consumption including, without limitation, those foods prepared principally from agricultural, dairy, or horticultural produce or with meat, fish, or poultry.

2. Each potential donor, to the greatest extent possible and practicable, may

make available to any bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization, to any representative or volunteer acting on behalf of such organization, to an uncompensated person acting in a philanthropic manner providing services similar to those of such an organization, or to a transporter of any surplus or excess canned or perishable food for use by such organization or person to feed homeless persons or other persons who are in need of food and are otherwise unable to provide food for themselves. In achieving this intent, the following provisions shall apply:

(1) Each donor may contact charitable or nonprofit organizations in the community in which the donor operates in order to provide for the collection by such organizations of any surplus or excess canned food or perishable food from the donor;

(2) Each charitable or nonprofit organization in this state which provides to the community in which it operates food for persons who are in need of food or are otherwise unable to provide food for themselves, or which collects and transports such food to such organizations, shall make every reasonable effort to contact any donors within the organization's area of operations for purposes of collecting any surplus or excess canned food or perishable food for use in providing such services.

3. A good faith donor of any canned or perishable food, apparently fit for human consumption, to a bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization for free distribution shall not be subject to criminal penalty or civil damages arising from the condition of the food, unless an injury is caused by the gross negligence, recklessness, or intentional misconduct of the donor.

4. A bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization, or any representative or volunteer acting on behalf of such organization or an uncompensated person acting in a philanthropic manner providing services similar to those of such an organization or transporter of any surplus or excess canned or perishable food for use by such organization which in good faith accepts, collects, transports, or distributes any canned or perishable food for free distribution and which reasonably inspects the food at the time of the donation and finds the food apparently fit for human consumption shall not be subject to criminal penalty or civil damages arising from the condition of the food, unless an injury is caused by the gross negligence, recklessness, or intentional misconduct of an agent of the charitable or nonprofit organization.

5. The department of health and senior services shall develop a public-information brochure detailing the need of food-recovery programs, the benefit of food-recovery programs, the manner in which such organizations may become involved in food-recovery programs and the food-recovery entities or food banks that exist in the state. This brochure must be updated annually.

6. The department of health and senior services shall submit to the governor,

the president pro tem of the senate, and the speaker of the house of representatives by November 1, 2004, a report summarizing state efforts in food recovery and recommending legislative action to enhance such efforts.

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