

SCR38 /SR26

Measure Title: URGING RESTAURANTS TO DONATE ANY LEFTOVER FOOD TO HOMELESS SHELTERS AT THE END OF THEIR BUSINESS DAY.

Report Title: Food Waste; Donate Leftovers; Department of Health; Hawaii Restaurant Association

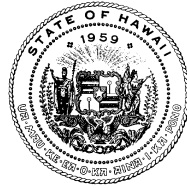
Description:

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: CPH/HMS

Introducer(s): S. CHANG, FEVELLA, K. RHOADS, RUDERMAN, Ihara, Wakai



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Testimony in OPPOSITION to SCR 38
URGING RESTAURANTS TO DONATE ANY LEFTOVER FOOD TO HOMELESS
SHELTERS AT THE END OF THEIR BUSINESS DAY

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

SENATOR RUSSELL E. RUDERMAN, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date: March 25, 2019
10:35am

Room Number: 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department opposes this resolution.

3

4 The resolution is too broadly written for the Department to support. Donations of Temperature
5 Controls for Safety (TCS) foods should not be encouraged unless proper food safety Standard
6 Operating Procedures (SOP) are submitted to and approved by the Department for those that
7 wish to engage in such activities. Proper food handling and transportation equipment must be
8 employed by food establishments (FE) wishing to donate TCS foods, to maintain food
9 temperatures and food integrity so as to not place the homeless at undue risk of contracting
10 foodborne illnesses.

11

12 The receivers of the donated food must also have valid food permit from the Department and
13 must also ensure that food is received and held at proper temperatures, and properly served.

14 SOP's must also be approved in regard to the cleaning and sanitizing of bulk pans and/or utensils
15 used for food service to prevent cross contamination.

16

1 Many restaurants do not have the requisite equipment, staffing, or procedures to become a
2 catering operation to safely transport and serve TCS food off premises.

3
4 We must always keep in mind that the homeless should be considered “at risk” populations for
5 contracting foodborne illness if they are keiki, kupuna, immuno-compromised, or have weakened
6 immune systems due to poor health conditions.

7
8 The Food Safety program will continue to work closely with any food establishment upon
9 request, that wishes to donate TCS foods to homeless shelters or other entities, to ensure that
10 food safety compliance is no different from any other FE.

11
12 The Food Safety program can develop general guidelines for those restaurants or other FE’s who
13 wish to donate TCS foods, but it would not be appropriate for the Department to encourage
14 certain practices to FE’s that do not have the proper equipment, means, or SOP’s to safely hold
15 and transport food to other permitted FE’s

16
17 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Kelii Gouveia, Chairman – Duke's Waikiki **Tom Jones, Incoming Chair** – Gyotaku
Tammy Fukugawa, Vice Chair – TS Restaurant **Dirk Koeppenkastrop, Secretary** – IL Gelato Hawaii
Michael Miller, Treasurer – Tiki's Grill & Bar **Tyler Roukema, Past Chair** – Outrigger Canoe Club

Sheryl Matsuoka, Executive Director **Leila Morinaga**, Executive Assistant **Holly Kessler**, Director of Membership Relations

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To: Sen. Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Sen. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
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Sen. Russell E. Ruderman, Chair
Sen. Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
Committee on Human Services

From: Victor Lim, Legislative Lead
Hawaii Restaurant Association

Subj: SCR 38/ SR 26 Urging Restaurants to Donate Leftover Food to Homeless Shelters...

The Hawaii Restaurant Association represent over 3,600 restaurants here in Hawaii supports the spirit and intent of this bill.

We do have many members that work closely with Aloha Harvest, Hawaii Food Bank, and others to do exactly what this resolution calls for and we continue to encourage our members to do where operations allow for them to do so.

Aloha Harvest allow us to provide the donation of cooked or prepared foods and is facilitated by providing foil pans and one-call pick up makes it easy for the restaurants and the food gets to the needy. We even have Ku'ulei Williams, the executive director of Aloha Harvest on our board. Some of our restaurants also use other services to deliver when opportunities arise.

Michael Miller from Tiki's Grill and Bar, one of our former chairs, is a member of the Hawaii Food Bank Board. Many of our supplier and distributor donate their excess inventories to the Food Bank. We are also getting our neighbor island members to do the same.

We thank you for your interest as we continue to educate and encourage our membership to see if we all could more.



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Submitted on: 3/21/2019 9:17:25 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/25/2019 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katrina Obleada	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Given that much of the waste in the environment is due to food waste, I wholeheartedly support this bill that mandates that restaurants donate their leftover food to homeless shelters at the end of the business day.

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Submitted on: 3/22/2019 9:15:53 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/25/2019 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allix Hessick	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I urge you on, behalf of compassion and a healthy moral conscience to vote yes on this bill. The first thing to do would be to establish working orders with individual outreach groups, and help make plans to fairly, and regionally, collect and distribute.

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Submitted on: 3/22/2019 9:42:53 AM

Testimony for CPH on 3/25/2019 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 3/22/2019 3:48:21 PM

Testimony for CPH on 3/25/2019 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Pulver	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The fact that literally tons of food is thrown away everyday that could be donated to provide healthy and nutritious meals to those in need is disgraceful. Restaurants and other food establishments would actually benefit from this type of policy change, in terms of waste reduction and positive public image. I strongly support the passing of a measure that would strongly encourage restaurants to donate leftover food to homeless shelters at the end of a business day. There are already organizations in place willing to go around and pick up such donations, so this type of measure could be put in place with little or no cost to the establishments and the government.