

Legislative History for Connecticut Act

PA 17-93

SB901

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Transcripts from the Joint Standing Committee Public
Hearing(s) and/or Senate and House of Representatives
Proceedings

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**CONNECTICUT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE**

**PROCEEDINGS
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ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

The motion before the Chamber is to place this item on the Consent Calendar. Is there objection of placing this item on consent? Objection? Seeing none. So ordered. Thank you. (Gavel)

Would the Clerk please call Calendar 640?

CLERK:

On page 39, Calendar 640, substitute Senate Bill No. 901 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ADOPTION OF A MODEL FOOD CODE; favorable report of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Representative Steinberg, on Senate Bill 901.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Okay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This -- I move for acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence with the Senate.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

The question before the Chamber is acceptance

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of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill in concurrence. Please proceed.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just as described, this is following DPH's recommendation to create a model food code for the state, which will actually ease matters for food establishments to comply and for DPH to administer. It has everything in it that a good model food code would want to have, and in fact, it's the very model of a model food code. The Clerk is in possession of an amendment, LCO 6260. I would ask the Clerk to please call the amendment and I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Will the Clerk please call LCO 6260, which was previously designated Senate "A".

CLERK:

Senate Amendment "A", LCO 6260, offered by Representative Steinberg and Representative Srinivasan.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

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Representative Steinberg, on Senate "A".

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said, this deals with creating a model food code and how one would administer it, and how food establishments would comply with it. It requires that we adopt the United States Food and Drug Administration's food code. It has many sections to it. I move adoption.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

The question before the Chamber is adoption of Senate "A". Further on Senate "A"? Further on Senate "A"? If not, I'll try your minds. All those in favor please signify by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Opposed? The ayes have it. (Gavel) Senate "A"
is adopted. Further on the bill as amended?
Further on the bill as amended? Representative
Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Chair -- Mr. Speaker. This makes a number of changes which are consistent with a model food code and makes it even better than it was before. The Clerk is in possession of another amendment, LCO 8243. I would ask the Clerk to please call the amendment, and that I be granted leave of the Chamber to summarize.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Will the Clerk please call LCO 8243, previously designated Senate "B"?

CLERK:

Senate "B", LCO 8243, offered by Representative Steinberg, Representative Srinivasan, et al.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Amendment "B" puts the finishing touches on what was accomplished in amendment "A" and in the underlying bill. I move adoption.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

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The question before the Chamber is adoption of Senate "B". Representative Srinivasan.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Through you, Mr. Speaker, to the good Chairman.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Please proceed.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Through you, Mr. Speaker. In this bill, amended by the Senate Amendment "A" and "B", we just want to be sure that nonprofit organizations, senior centers, political subdivisions, you know, all of those situations where, you know, food is brought in, and obviously it's not on a commercial basis but it is a nonprofit, how would this amendment impact those institutions?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

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Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and bless you. The current statute does allow for certain nonprofits to make donations, but this expands it to include political subdivisions, and it is much more all encompassing of all the not-for-profits that might want to make food donations. I thank the good Representative for the question.

Through you.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31ST):

So, through you, Mr. Speaker.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Representative Srinivasan.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31ST):

Through you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Through you, Mr. Speaker. When this goes into effect in '18, that is what I understand the model food code is gonna go into effect there, what happens between now and 2018?

Through you, Mr. Speaker.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

One moment, please. Sonja, that light is

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shining right in my eye. You've got some sort of laser or something there. Thank you very much.

Back to the -- Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, through you. The good Representative raises an important question. The model food code does not go into effect until 2018. In the meantime, the food establishments and the DPH will be working towards making sure that the rules are very clear. So the existing statute, as it relates to donations by nonprofits, stays in effect until everything goes into effect in '18.

Through you.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Representative Srinivasan.

REP. SRINIVASAN (31ST):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Thank you very much. Further on Senate "B"?
On Senate "B"? Further on Senate "B"? If not, I'll
try your minds. All those in favor of Senate

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"B" please indicate by saying aye.

REPRESENTATIVES:

Aye.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Opposed? The ayes have it. (Gavel) Senate "B"
is adopted. Further on the bill as amended?

Further on the bill as amended? Further on Senate
Bill 901 as amended? Representative Steinberg.

REP. STEINBERG (136TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that this item
be offered for the Consent Calendar.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

The motion before the Chamber is to place this
item on the Consent Calendar. Is there objection to
placement on the Consent Calendar? Is there
objection? Seeing none, so ordered. Thank you.

(Gavel)

Would the Clerk please call Calendar 642?

CLERK:

On page 40, Calendar 642, Senate Bill No. 904 -
AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S

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just so we have that correct.

REP. SAMPSON (80TH):

The bill no. is 7273.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

(Bill) 7273, Calendar 324.

REP. SAMPSON (80TH):

Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Thank you very much. That shall be removed from the Consent Calendar. So ordered. (Gavel) And we'll stand at ease for a minute or two.

Would the House please come back to order?

Would the House please come back to order? We are about to -- I'm about to request that the Clerk -- that he read the bills that are contained upon today's Consent Calendar. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

List of bills from Consent Calendar: Senate Bill 884 with Senate "A"; Senate Bill 826 with Senate "A"; House Bill 7278 with House "A"; Senate Bill 353 with Senate "A"; Senate Bill 968; Senate

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Bill 26; Senate Bill 930 with Senate "A"; Senate
Bill 911 with Senate "A"; Senate Bill 1020; Senate
Bill 983; Senate Bill 914; Senate Bill No. 4 with
Senate "A"; Senate Bill 941; Senate Bill 917 with
Senate "A"; Senate Bill 836 with Senate "A"; Senate
Bill 890; Senate Bill 893; Senate Bill 895 with
Senate "A"; Senate Bill 901 with Senate "A" and "B";
Senate Bill 904 with Senate "A".

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Representative Albis.

REP. ALBIS (99TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move
passage of the bills on today's Consent Calendar.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

The question before the Chamber is passage of
the Consent Calendar. Would you remark on the
motion on the floor? The motion before the Chamber
is passage of the Consent Calendar. The motion
before the Chamber is adoption and passage of the
Consent Calendar. Further on this motion? If not,
staff and guests please retire to the Well of the

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House. Members take your seats. The machine will be opened. (Ringing)

CLERK:

The House of Representatives is voting by roll.

Members to the Chamber. The House of Representatives is voting by roll. Members to the Chamber.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Have all members voted? If all the members have voted, please check the board to make sure your vote is properly cast. If all members have voted, the machine will be locked. Would the Clerk please take a tally? Would the Clerk please announce the tally?

CLERK:

Consent Calendar 1,

Total number Voting	150
Necessary for Passage	76
Those voting Yea	150
Those voting Nay	0
Those absent and not Voting	1

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ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

The Consent Calendar passes. (Gavel) Thank you
all.

Would the Clerk please call Calendar 324 again?

CLERK:

On page 13, House Calendar 324, substitute
House Bill No. 7273 - AN ACT CONCERNING LOCAL
EDUCATION AUTHORITIES; favorable report of the Joint
Standing Committee on Education.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

Representative Fleischmann, you have the floor.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move acceptance of
the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage
of the bill.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY SPEAKER ALTOBELLO (82ND):

The question is acceptance and passage. Please
proceed.

REP. FLEISCHMANN (18TH):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I described this bill
before it went on the Consent Calendar. A good

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Thank you, Madam President. Thank you, Senator Gerratana. I'll be supportive of the Bill.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Is there any further comment? Are there any further comments? Are there any further comments? Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Thank you, Madam President. If there's no objection I would ask this item be placed on our Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Are there any objections? Seeing none, so ordered.
Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you, Madam President. If the Clerk can now call calendar page 20, calendar 249, Senate Bill 901.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

On page 20, calendar 249, Substitute for Senate Bill No. 901, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ADOPTION OF AMODEL FOOD CODE.

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Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Thank you, Madam President. We're going along here. This is very good for our committee. I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's Favorable Report and passage of the Bill.

THE CHAIR:

Please continue.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Thank you, Madam President. The Clerk has an Amendment, LCO No. 6260. If he would please call and I be allowed to summarize.

THE CHAIR:

Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

LCO No. 6260, Senate Amendment Schedule A offered by Senators Gerratana and Somers.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, I move adoption.

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THE CHAIR:

Please continue.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Madam President, this is a Strike All Amendment; however, what has been done in cooperation with the LCO is that it does reflect the underlying Bill but the organization, if you will, of the language has been changed in the order the LCO had suggested. Otherwise it still does what the original Bill did and that is the adoption of the FDA, the Federal Drug Administration's model food code here in the state.

Our Department of Public Health, of course, oversees our use of food and how it is used particularly amongst public settings and adopting the model food code updates and helps many of our businesses as well as others in producing and making and preparing food in our state for commercial reasons and also in schools and in other settings. It's delineated in the Bill.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you very much. Any comments on the Amendment?
Senator Somers.

SENATOR SOMERS (18TH):

I'd like to say that this is a good Amendment. It clarifies language so that the state is in accordance with the FDA guidelines. It makes it

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simpler for folks moving forward and I would urge that everyone support this. Thank you.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Are there any further comments on the Amendment? If not, I'll try your minds. All those in favor of the Amendment indicate by saying Aye [Ayes voiced]. Any opposed? Any objections? Seeing none, so ordered. Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Madam President, I believe at this time I would have to yield to the -- to Senator Duff who will refer it to the Judiciary Committee.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you, Madam --

THE CHAIR:

Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, I move -- we refer this item to the Judiciary Committee please.

THE CHAIR:

Without objection, so ordered. Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

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Madam President, if there is no objection, I'd ask this be moved to the Consent Calendar.

THE CHAIR:

Let's try on this one. Seeing no objection. So
ordered, sir. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

On page 45, Calendar 249, Substitute for Senate Bill
Number 901, AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ADOPTION OF
A MODEL FOOD CODE.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Would the senate stand
at ease for a moment?

THE CHAIR:

Senate will stand at ease for just that moment. The
Senate will come back to order. Senator Duff.
Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, I
would yield to Senator Gerratana, please.

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Senator Gerratana, do you accept the yield, Ma'am?

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

I do, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Great.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

So sorry, I was working on other legislation in the hallway.

THE CHAIR:

No problem, Ma'am.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

I move acceptance of the Joint Committee's favorable report and passage of the bill.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on acceptance and passage. Will you remark, Ma'am?

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Yes. Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, the clerk has an amendment, LCO Number 8243. If he would please call and I be allowed to summarize.

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Mr. Clerk. Sorry. The Senate will stand at ease for a moment. The Senate will come back to order.
Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:

LCO Number 8243, Senate "A" offered by Senators Gerratana, Somers, et al.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Thank you, Madam President. I move adoption.

THE CHAIR:

Motion is on adoption. Will you remark, Ma'am?

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, this amendment is a strike-all amendment. It changes -- it actually doesn't change the underlying bill in its intent but it does change the organizational -- the organizational way that the bill is written and what it does is that we are having -- this comes from the Department of Public Health, having the Department of Public Health adopt a new food code and it's based on the model food code which is developed and promulgated on the federal level.

This is very important for a number of reasons. One is of course, the Department is the entity that

regulates and oversees and makes sure that the food that we eat in commercial establishments or in schools or a variety of situations is regulated and appropriate. It handles and addresses everything from the temperature of the food and how it should be held and how it should be prepared and also, this bill regulates and makes sure that each establishment has a food code manager.

Someone who is certified and oversees and makes sure -- particularly in -- depending on the classification of the establishment -- such as -- and in this case, class III or class IV, an establishment that serves food to the public to make sure that that food is safe for us to eat. So the food code is important to update because of course, there are new -- there's new technology in food production and preparation as well as everywhere else in society. It modifies the definition of the four classifications of food establishments.

The old code talked about food service but in this case we're actually talking about establishments. We do have certain exemptions such as for soup kitchens and we have specific regulations here for farmers markets which are already in statute but we updated the language and made it consistent with the food code.

We also had to do -- one of the sections because I know I had discussions with Senator Frantz about legislation we passed previously on sous vide and acidification of rice used in sushi. There is a section in the bill that addresses that because as we phase out the old food code and institute the new there would be a year gap and the department can issue a variance so that these establishments can

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continue to serve food under the old law. So with that, I would urge the chamber to adopt the amendment. Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Just for correction, it will be marked Senate "B". Will you speak further on Senate "B"? Senator McLachlan.

SENATOR MCLACHLAN (24TH):

Thank you, Madam President. I stand for the purpose of a question to the proponent of that amendment.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed, sir.

SENATOR MCLACHLAN (24TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Senator Gerratana, thank you for your work on this legislation. My question is, does this proposed amendment significantly change the operation and/or regulation of restaurants in the State of Connecticut? Through you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Thank you, Madam President. My understanding that the restaurant association is in complete support of this legislation. In fact, they have been asking

for it, if you will, which is why we had to do special legislation in the past. They have been keeping up with of course, the education and training that is needed in the restaurant setting in particular.

Many of them and some that I have even talked to have asked me to have our food codes updated. So I know this is greatly needed. It will change in the sense that the certification and training of the person who oversees food production -- as I understand, has to be certified -- and that is something that is greatly needed and they are, I know, in complete support. Through you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator McLachlan.

SENATOR MCLACHLAN (24TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Thank you, Senator Gerratana. I have no further questions but just a comment. I've had an experience very recently as a commercial realtor trying to help a new restaurant start up in my home town and get all the necessary permitting required and build a new kitchen and I'll never forget going in to visit the restaurateur as he was finishing his construction and about ready to get a certificate of occupancy and he gave me a tour of the kitchen. And I was amazed as he pointed to a small sink that looked like a sink that would go in a dollhouse -- it was tiny, as big as a laptop, in fact.

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It was just a tiny sink but it was next to three other sinks and he said that that sink is required by regulations here in Connecticut to wash your hands but there are three other sinks lined up right next to it and so he said, you know, it seems sort of silly to have a fourth sink lined up next to three others that are already there for pot washing and yet, that sink costs another \$250 or \$300 dollars -- I forget what it was.

The point was, he used that as an example but he said there were many other things that didn't seem to be common sense requirements. And some highly burdensome. Certainly the fancy grease trap is one of the very expensive costs to build a restaurant kitchen. But my point is just to -- for us to remain aware as we are laws that affect small businesses that we question our professionals. We understand the health department is a professional in the field. But I don't think there's any logical explanation for having a fourth sink lined up next to three others.

So I use that as an example that I hope my fellow legislators will look carefully at legislation that we pass and make sure that we're not creating a financial burden to our small businesses. Thank you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Will you remark further? Senator Formica.

SENATOR FORMICA (20TH):

Thank you.

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THE CHAIR:

Good afternoon again, sir.

SENATOR FORMICA (20TH):

Thank you, Madam President, although a bit late, I must recuse myself from this particular piece of legislation and I will be leaving the chamber. And I apologize for not being able to get up sooner.

THE CHAIR:

No problem. We'll wait till you leave the chamber. Senator Miner. Good afternoon, sir.

SENATOR MINER (30TH):

Good afternoon, Madam President. I too have a couple of questions on the amendment, please, if I might, through you.

THE CHAIR:

Please proceed.

SENATOR MINER (30TH):

Thank you, Madam President. Section 4 -- the section seems to speak about the serving of food. Which is separate and apart from food sold. And so through you, Madam President. It's not uncommon for me to go to the grocery store on a weekend or a hardware store and find somebody selling a plate of cookies or anything like that, as a fundraiser for a cross country team or some lake association, all

usually charitable, most of which I would assume at this point, don't run over to Torrington Area Health to get a permit.

Is there anything in this language -- the section that I just referred to that would require any of those circumstances to have a permit -- after the passage of this? Through you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Thank you, Madam President. No, Senator Miner, in fact, later on in the bill -- I was frantically trying to go through it -- there are exceptions as I mentioned: soup kitchens, bake sales, that sort of thing. I think in other parts of our statute there are some guidelines, if you will. Regulations that address this but the classifications are class I, class II, III, and IV. I believe is what we're talking about.

They're already in statute and the thing that we have to understand is that these classifications then are degrees, if you will, of how and where food is served -- how that will be regulated. There are -- for instance, a class IV would be vulnerable populations like school children in a school cafeteria, that sort of thing, and along with these classifications as I said for establishments, what you're talking about would not be an establishment per se.

It wouldn't be a restaurant, it wouldn't be a school cafeteria, it wouldn't be a place where food is served normally. So if you wish and if we could stand at ease, I will actually go to and look at the parts of the bill that if he wishes, that exempt -- I think there's a laundry list of incidences and instances as you described.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Miner.

SENATOR MINER (30TH):

So -- thank you, Madam President. And I thank the gentlelady for offering. No, I -- I mean, I would take you at your word that these are exempt -- these kind of bake sales, cookie sales, generally homemade products, generally for a dollar, generally nobodies making a fortune and I don't know whether the level of risk in that circumstance would rise to the level of a permit or an inspection, but I am curious about the reference of an exemption for a soup kitchen.

It strikes me as odd that we would somehow make a determination that in a place that would prepare what I think would be a full meal more often than not, the people of need get -- the kitchen in which that's prepared -- the mechanism in which that may be prepared, the licensure under which that might be prepared, would somehow be exempt. Is there any reason to worry about whether or not the standard of preparation either in maintaining temperature or anything like that in a soup kitchen would somehow be risky business because they are carved out of this? Through you, Madam President.

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Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Through you, Madam President. I would like to direct you to Section 8, Senator Miner, and in there, nothing in this section or sections 3 to 7 inclusive of this act shall limit the authority of directors of health -- but it also goes on lines 288 that says the exemption -- well, actually -- 281 talks about certified farmers' markets shall not limit the authority of the commissioner of Agriculture and then in 288, the provisions of the food code that concern the employment of a certified food manager and any reporting requirements relative to such food manager shall not apply to an owner or operator of a soup kitchen that relies exclusively on services provided by volunteers, any -- excuse me.

Any volunteer who serves meals from a nonprofit organization and it goes on there. So what we are doing in this legislation is actually saying that there are exemptions from having that certified food manager but these situations would be classified under -- and they are in different parts of the statute -- under the classification of food establishments and those -- like class I and is there vulnerable populations involved and that sort of thing.

And that would be determined at the establishment of the soup kitchen from what I understand would be established as to who are you serving, are they considered vulnerable in which case then I will say that the concerns that you raised would be a direct so that we make sure that food temperature is

appropriate, that certain procedures regarding the handling of food is appropriate. But you would not need to have the -- this process overseen by a food -- a certified food production manager. Through you, Madam President.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Miner.

SENATOR MINER (30TH):

Thank you, Madam President. So all the safeguards that we would be looking for with regard to public health must still be in place?

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Yes.

SENATOR MINER (30TH):

You just don't have to have the certified person on premises and that does permit an opportunity for all the things that are listed in that section again, theoretically, no reduction in public safety, public health, just that -- what might be otherwise onerous title to have to meet every time its functioning.

THE CHAIR:

Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

Through you, Madam President. I'm sorry. Yes. That's correct.

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SENATOR MINER (30TH):

Thank you --

THE CHAIR:

Senator Miner.

SENATOR MINER (30TH):

I thank the gentlelady for her response.

THE CHAIR:

Thank you. Will you remark further on the amendment? Will you remark further on the amendment? If not, let me try your minds. All those in favor of Senate "B" please say "Aye."

SENATORS:

Aye.

THE CHAIR:

Opposed? Senate "B" is adopted. Will you remark further on the bill? Senator Gerratana.

SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

I think Madam President, we need a roll call vote since Senator Formica has recused himself.

THE CHAIR:

That's true. Thank you very much.

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SENATOR GERRATANA (6TH):

You're welcome, Madam.

THE CHAIR:

At this time, Mr. Clerk, will you call for a roll call vote and the machine will be open.

CLERK:

Immediate Roll Call has been ordered in the Senate.
Immediate Roll Call has been ordered in the Senate.

THE CHAIR:

If all members have voted, all members have voted. The machine will be closed. Mr. Clerk, will you call the tally?

CLERK:

Senate Bill 971.

SB 901

Total number voting	35
Those voting Yea	35
Those voting Nay	0
Absent and not voting	1

THE CHAIR:

The Bill passes. (Gavel) Senator Duff.

SENATOR DUFF (25TH):