



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 55

February Session, 2026

Substitute Senate Bill No. 382

Senate, March 18, 2026

The Committee on Public Health reported through SEN. ANWAR of the 3rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING EDIBLE FOOD RECOVERY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section:

2 (1) "Food distribution organization" means a nonprofit organization
3 that collects and distributes food to individuals for human
4 consumption;

5 (2) "Food recovery service" means an entity that collects and
6 transports food from a supermarket to a food distribution organization;

7 (3) "Supermarket" means a retail food store in the state that occupies
8 a total retail sales area of at least fifteen thousand square feet; and

9 (4) "Surplus edible food" means food intended for human
10 consumption that (A) is unsold due to surplus, cosmetic appearance,
11 nearing its expiration date or packaging damage that does not
12 compromise food safety, and (B) complies with all applicable food
13 safety standards.

14 (b) Not later than January 1, 2027, the Commissioner of Consumer
 15 Protection, in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health,
 16 shall develop and implement guidelines for supermarkets to donate
 17 surplus edible food to food distribution organizations throughout the
 18 state using a food recovery service and post such guidelines on the
 19 Department of Consumer Protection's Internet web site.

20 (c) Not later than January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, each
 21 supermarket shall report to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection,
 22 in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, regarding its
 23 donation of surplus edible food in accordance with the guidelines
 24 developed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

25 (d) Not later than February 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, the
 26 Commissioner of Consumer Protection shall report, in accordance with
 27 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, regarding the
 28 donation of surplus edible food as reported by each supermarket
 29 pursuant to subsection (c) of this section to the joint standing
 30 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
 31 relating to consumer protection and public health.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2026	New section

PH Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Cost	60,655	78,206
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	22,821	30,427

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) to develop and implement guidelines for supermarkets to donate surplus food, resulting in a cost to the state. To meet the requirements of the bill DCP will have to hire one food inspector for a salary and other expenses cost of \$60,655 in FY 27² and \$78,206 in FY 28, along with a fringe benefit cost of \$22,821 in FY 27 and \$30,427 in FY 28. The additional employee will be needed to respond to inquiries from retailers and food donors, provide technical assistance, collect and review the supermarket food donation reports, and annually report to the Public Health and General Law committees.

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 41.82% of payroll in FY 27.

²Costs in FY 27 reflect nine months of expenditures due to the bills October 1, 2026, effective date.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to employee wage increases and inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 382*****AN ACT CONCERNING EDIBLE FOOD RECOVERY.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) to develop and implement guidelines for supermarkets to donate surplus edible food to nonprofit food distribution organizations using a food recovery service that transports the food to these organizations throughout the state. DCP must (1) do so by January 1, 2027, and in consultation with the Department of Public Health and (2) post the guidelines on its website.

Under the bill, “surplus edible food” is food meant for humans that (1) is unsold due to surplus, cosmetic appearance, its nearing expiration date, or damaged packaging that does not compromise food safety, and (2) meets all applicable food safety standards. The bill applies to in-state supermarkets with at least 15,000 square feet of retail space.

Under the bill, starting by January 1, 2028, each supermarket must annually report to DCP on its surplus edible food donations under these guidelines. Starting by February 1, 2028, DCP must annually report on these donations to the Public Health and General Law committees.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 21 Nay 10 (03/09/2026)