



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 382

February Session, 2026



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.*