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## **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)