

HOUSE BILL NO. 759

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources
on January 24, 2024)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Delegate Freitas)

A BILL to amend and reenact § 3.2-5130 of the Code of Virginia, relating to food inspections; private homes; pickles and acidified vegetables; gross sales.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 3.2-5130 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 3.2-5130. Inspections required to operate food establishment.

A. It is unlawful to operate as a food manufacturer, food storage warehouse, or retail food establishment until (i) such food manufacturer, food storage warehouse, or retail food establishment has been inspected by the Commissioner and (ii) the Commissioner has issued a permit pursuant to subsection C of § 3.2-5100 for the operation of the food manufacturer, food storage warehouse, or retail food establishment. If the inspection finds no significant health hazards to the public, any food manufacturer, food storage warehouse, or retail food establishment may operate until receipt of the permit. Such permit shall be processed within 30 days of the inspection date.

B. If the Commissioner determines that conditions exist in a food manufacturer, food storage warehouse, or retail food establishment that would render such entity significantly out of compliance with an applicable provision of this chapter or regulation adopted pursuant to this chapter, the Commissioner may, in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.), deny, suspend, or revoke the permit of such entity. If the Commissioner determines that conditions exist in a food manufacturer, food storage warehouse, or retail food establishment that present a significant and immediate public health hazard, the Commissioner may suspend the permit of such entity and shall seek an expedited informal fact-finding proceeding pursuant to § 2.2-4019.

C. The provisions of subsections A and B shall not apply to:

27 1. Food manufacturers operating under a grant of inspection from the Office of Meat and Poultry
28 Services or a permit from the Office of Dairy and Foods in the Department; and Grade A fluid milk
29 manufacturing plants and shellfish and crustacea processing plants operating under a permit from the
30 Virginia Department of Health;

31 2. Nonprofit organizations holding one-day food sales;

32 3. Private homes where the resident processes and prepares candies, jams, and jellies not
33 considered to be low-acid or acidified low-acid food products, dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonings, dry
34 mixtures, coated and uncoated nuts, vinegars and flavored vinegars, popcorn, popcorn balls, cotton candy,
35 dried pasta, dry baking mixes, roasted coffee, dried tea, cereals, trail mixes, granola, and baked goods ~~that~~
36 ~~do not require time or temperature control after preparation~~ if such products are: (i) those that do not
37 require time or temperature control after preparation; (ii) sold in person in the Commonwealth to an
38 individual for his own consumption and not for resale or consignment; ~~(ii) (iii) sold at the private home,~~
39 at a temporary event that operates for a period of no more than 14 consecutive days, or at a farmers-~~markets~~
40 market; ~~(iii) (iv) not offered for sale to be used in or offered for consumption in retail food establishments;~~
41 ~~(iv) not offered for sale over the Internet or in interstate commerce;~~ and (v) affixed with a label placed on
42 the principal display panel or, for a product in packaging not large enough to bear such a label, offered for
43 sale with a sign displaying the name, physical address, and telephone number of the person preparing the
44 food product, the date the food product was processed, and the statement "NOT FOR RESALE —
45 PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION." ~~shall be placed on the principal~~
46 ~~display panel.~~ Nothing in this subdivision shall create or diminish the authority of the Commissioner under
47 § 3.2-5102 or shall prohibit a resident selling a food product in accordance with this subdivision from
48 advertising such food product on the Internet;

49 4. Private homes where the resident processes and prepares pickles and other acidified vegetables
50 that have an equilibrium pH value of 4.6 or lower if such products are (i) sold in person in the
51 Commonwealth to an individual for his own consumption and not for resale or consignment; (ii) sold at
52 the private home, at a temporary event that operates for a period of no more than 14 consecutive days, or
53 at a farmers-~~markets~~ market; (iii) not offered for sale to be used in or offered for consumption in retail

