



SENATOR STEVE WILSON

Government Oversight and Reform Committee
Senator Steve Wilson
June 1st, 2022
Senate Bill 333

Good morning Chair Roegner, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Craig and members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee. Thank you for allowing me to provide sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 333, which is a minor change to Ohio's already existing Good Samaritan law. Which extends a person's or companies civil immunity from civil liability for donating perishable food to a nonprofit that charges the cost of handling the food.

Current law does provide immunity from civil liability for donating perishable food but only if the nonprofit provides the food totally free of charge. This bill simply extends that immunity to those who charge individuals the amount sufficient to cover the cost of handling perishable food.

The need for this legislation stems from a non-profit in my area, La Soupe. La Soupe has done excellent work distributing meals to eighty one partner agencies that serve the community, this includes schools, community groups, food pantries and more. La Soupe takes donated perishable food and makes it into soup and other dishes. This has had great success as they are able to charge a low rate for food, as they simply charge the cost of preparing it. However it was discovered that they are not protected under the law due to this low charge, even though it is simply to keep the non-profit operational. This law fixes this simple oversight to protect La Soupe and other non-profits like them from civil liability.

This change in the Good Samaritan law also protects companies like Kroger when they donate perishable food items to non-profits

This is a simple bill, it insures we protect organizations that are working towards the public good. With that, I urge support for SB 333. I would happy to take any questions that you have.