House Bill 171 – Department of the Environment – Yard Waste, Food

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Food Donation/Source Reduction

Subgroup Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday, August 28, 2018; 9:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

Place: Maryland Department of the Environment
Lobby Conference Rooms
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21230

9:30 Welcome and Introductions - All

9:40 Obstacles/Barriers to Food Donation/Source Reduction in Maryland

1) Transportation
2) Date Labeling and other food safety concerns.
3) De-packaging when used for animal feed.

9:55 Recommendations discussed in previous HB 171 Workgroup meetings

1) Continue to identify obstacles regarding Food Donation/Source Reduction.
2) Increase outreach and education on food donation opportunities.
3) Increase education on and consistent implementation of public health regulations regarding food donation.
4) Consider whether enhancements to existing liability protections and tax credits for donors are needed to improve participation in food donation programs.
5) Promote school food recovery programs and explore a better partnership between MD Food Bank and Schools.
6) Improve data collection regarding infrastructure gaps regarding food donation.
7) Explore economic incentives.
8) Obtain status of the current infrastructure and practices for the use of food scraps as animal feed to better assess needs and challenges.
9) Expand Green Registry to highlight food donation and source reduction.
10) Expand Maryland Annotated Code to include liability protections for direct donations as well as donations at a nominal fee.
(note – all recommendations listed about were discussed in previous Study Group Meetings are were reflected in meeting summaries)

10:15 Other recommendations

10:25 Wrap up and next steps - MDE

Please refer to the Department’s Organics Diversion and Composting page for information relating to the study group. www.mde.maryland.gov/composting

Additional questions? Please contact John Sullivan at john.sullivan1@maryland.gov or 410-537-3314