

SB

118

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
COMMISSIONER BALLARD - SB 118 TESTIMONY
SENATE COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Honorable Chairmembers of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today on behalf of the Governor's legislation to allow first and second class boroughs to enforce food safety standards, SB 118.

The State of Alaska has been ensuring food is handled correctly since Statehood. State law provides the framework and department regulation provides the standards that protect public health. We are fortunate that there is a growing knowledge about safe food handling practices and modern food preparation technology. In the last 20 years many food safety programs have implemented a new regulatory approach to take advantage of new information.

Nationally, a mix of local, state and federal governments perform the needed tasks to insure the public food supply is protected. In Alaska, state government has been the primary entity working with food service establishments to protect public health. The state has had statutory and regulatory ability to delegate this program to local governments since 1999. Anchorage takes advantage of this opportunity and conducts food inspections as a home-rule municipality.

We believe it is important to encourage as much local control as possible in the important area of local food safety. State law allows home rule cities and boroughs, and first and second class cities to implement a food safety program that is consistent with their charter and approved by their assembly. This bill provides the same opportunity to first and second class boroughs. Specifically, it allows those boroughs to conduct a food safety program using protective state standards.

The State of Alaska will continue to set protective standards and implement them in areas that have not asked for delegation to provide the service themselves.

This legislation does not require any local government to take on this responsibility. It gives them the opportunity to exercise local control should they choose.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2003 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: SB 118
 (S) Publish Date: 3/6/03

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: DEC
 Title Power of boroughs to conduct inspections BRU Environmental Health
 Component Food Safety and Sanitation
 Sponsor Rules Committee
 Requester Governor Component No. 2343

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Contractual	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Land & Structures	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grants & Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1003 GF Match	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1004 GF	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1005 GF/Program Receipts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1037 GF/Mental Health	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2003) cost: 0.0

Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2004 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Part-time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill provides first and second class boroughs the authority to inspect and enforce standards for food and aquatic farm products. There is no fiscal impact to the department.

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 Approved by: Kurt Fredriksson -Deputy Commissioner
 Agency: Department of Environmental Conservation

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