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SEP 16 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO:

ALL SENATORS

FROM:

SENATOR ELDER VOGEL JR.

DATE:

September 16, 2011

RE:

CO-SPONSORSHIP

In the near future, I plan to introduce legislation that would amend Title 3 (Agriculture – Chapter 57) to allow the Department of Agriculture to issue a single license to an owner of a retail food facility that allows the owner to operate their facility at multiple locations without having to obtain a license from another county or local food safety jurisdiction. This license will be limited to facilities that operate 120 days or less in a calendar year.

Currently, farmers that would like to sell their fresh and affordable agriculture products at multiple farmers markets have to obtain multiple and expensive licenses if those markets are in multiple food safety jurisdictions. Allowing the department to issue a single license will reduce the financial and licensing burden many of our farmers currently face. This amendment will exempt a person from having to obtain multiple licenses, but it WILL NOT exempt those operations from the required food safety inspections at every facility.

Please contact Lindsay Raker if you wish to cosponsor this legislation: 717-787-3076 or lraker@pasen.gov