

Testimony Before Legislation Committee

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The current process pursued by the New Haven Health Department's Bureau of Environmental Health follows adopted procedures and protocols established by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health, City Ordinances, Statutes and a fee structure adopted by the Board of Alders. The fee structure is based upon the square footage or type of establishment. For an operator to receive a new food-service license, he/she is also required to have the facility inspected by the Building/Fire/ Zoning and WPCA Departments; this requirement does not extend to a renewal of a license, only the first time a food service license is requested. The Health Department performs periodic inspections of all food service establishments throughout the year. The health department does not pro-rate license fees; all licenses begin and end on May 1.

To specifically respond, to grant a license to an owner of an establishment seeking to operate within an already existing and licensed facility would still require an inspection to determine public health compliance. If the owner is receiving his/her first Micro Food Business license an inspection from the Fire/Building/Zoning/WPCA departments would

be needed, because, depending upon when the host entity was first licensed, an inspection by these City departments might not have occurred for some time. Without having "sign offs," how would one determine if the proposed facility is "up to date on all inspections?" Moreover, the Micro Food Business may require additional equipment not provided by the host; although the definition states otherwise.

Sec. 14-1.1

Definitions:

- 1b) A lot of additional equipment does not require "professional installation."
- d) Not just "additional changes" require an inspection- safety & public health inspections are performed periodically, or as requested.

As for an imposition of a \$75.00 license fee instead of being determined by square footage, as all license fees are based, I would defer to the Board of Alders. At the present time, City Seed operates an incubator (shared) kitchen for operators who have small businesses. Each of those businesses currently pays \$150, the minimum existing fee for a food service license.

I would not recommend pro-rating the department's food-service license fees as it has not generated any complaints- save this one- and is a revenue stream for the City, which allows for public health protection. More than 1,000 food service licenses are generated each year.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Paul