

Memorializing Resolution Compelling The Meat Industry In New York State To Notify State Health Officials Of Retailers That Have Received Recalled Meat

Legislators Aiello, Alfonso, Busick, Cummings, DePew, Every, Felicello, Gerentine, Harris, Hathaway, Maloney, McAfee, Meyer, Noonan, Roberti, Stock, Tipp, Bartels, Berardi, Dart, Donaldson, Feldmann, Hyatt, Kraft, Lomita, Loughran, R.A. Parete, R.S. Parete, Provenzano, Rodriguez, Shapiro, Stoeckeler and Zimet offer the following:

WHEREAS, according to a published report, close to 80 million Americans become ill after consuming contaminated food and 325,000 are hospitalized and more than 5,000 people die each year, and

WHEREAS, no federal agency can require a food manufacturer to remove a contaminated product from the market with the exception of infant formula, and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture's web site lists only the food manufacturer and not the names of supermarkets or restaurants who sold recalled food, and

WHEREAS, states can sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the USDA, which would release more information to certain officials but that information cannot be shared with local health officials or the public, and

WHEREAS, the release of information concerning recalled or contaminated meats is currently voluntary for the retailer, and

WHEREAS, restaurants and/or other food service establishments that vend beef, poultry, fish, pork, lamb or other specialty cuts of meat to the general public, that unknowingly receives contaminated meats, would be confidentially notified by County Health Officials, and

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature calls upon Governor Pataki and the New York State Legislature to create a comprehensive tracking system from the farmer to the final retailer and which will notify County Health Officials of retailers that received recalled meat, and

Resolution No. 114 March 10, 2005

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FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor George E. Pataki, Comptroller Alan Hevesi, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, Senate Minority Leader David A. Paterson, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Minority Leader Charles Nesbitt, New York State Senators John J. Bonacic, Patricia K. McGee and William J. Larkin, Jr., New York State Assemblymen Kevin Cahill, Clifford Crouch, Daniel Hooker, William Magee and Thomas Kirwan, and the New York State Association of Counties,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 33 NOES: 0

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

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