



BUTTE-SILVER BOW HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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SENATE AGRICULTURE
EXHIBIT NO. 11
DATE 1/15/13
BILL NO. 94

To: Montana State Legislature

From: John Rolich, R.S., Food Safety Advisory Council Member

Date: January 15, 2012

Subject: Senate Bill No.94 "An Act Exempting the Exchange of Certain Foods and Beverages from Food Safety Regulations; and Amending section 50-50-102; MCA."

Thank you for allowing me to comment on Senate Bill No.94 "An Act Exempting the Exchange of Certain Foods and Beverages from Food Safety Regulations; and Amending section 50-50-102; MCA."

1. 50-50-102-4b: The term does not include people who gather to exchange: (i) high-acid canned goods, including but not limited to tomato sauce, fruits, pickles, or other vinegar-based foods; (ii) home-brewed beer; or (iii) dehydrated fruits and vegetables.

Comments:

1. **The language is vague. How is exchange defined and in what venues, events can these food items be exchanged?**
2. **Improper canning of food items can cause major food borne illness which can lead to death (ie: Clostridium Botulinum).**
3. **What procedures are used to determine if a canned food item is high-acid.**
4. **If the products are distributed to the general public, there must be proper labeling of these products stating "That the products are not from an approved source and that they are consuming the product at their own risk".**

I am in opposition of Senate Bill No. 94 "An Act Exempting the Exchange of Certain Foods and Beverages from Food Safety Regulations; and Amending section 50-50-102; MCA."

If you have any questions, I can be reached at 406-497-5027 or jrolich@bsb.mt.gov