

HB 3342 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Wilde

House Committee On Human Services and Housing

Action Date: 04/08/19

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Helt, Keny-Guyer, Meek, Mitchell, Noble, Sanchez, Schouten, Williams, Zika

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 4/3, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires hospitals and long term care facilities to make available to patients and residents plant-based meals because of allergies, intolerances, preferences, religious needs, or by request. Requires the Department of Corrections (DOC) to make available to all inmates a plant-based meal option any time a meal is served. Clarifies that a plant-based meal is also known as a vegan meal.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- People choose plant-based diets for a variety of reasons, including for health and weight-management
- Protecting the rights of residents to choose what they eat
- Can result in less expensive meals
- Removed assisted living facilities from the measure
- Differences between veganism and plant-based diets
- The science behind the effectiveness of whole-food plant-based meals
- Improvements in heart health and cholesterol

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

There are many different types of plant-based diets. One of the most common is vegan, which typically excludes all animal products such as meat, eggs, and dairy. Plant-based meals focus on whole-foods, while minimizing the consumption of highly processed foods and drinks, added sugars, and animal-derived products. Plant-based diets are generally considered to be more flexible than vegan or vegetarian diets.