

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to food recovery; amending s. 595.420,
 3 F.S.; providing definitions; directing the Department
 4 of Agriculture and Consumer Services, subject to
 5 appropriation, to implement a pilot program to provide
 6 funds to food recovery entities to expand capabilities
 7 for extending the shelf life of fresh produce;
 8 providing qualification criteria; requiring the
 9 department to submit a report to the Governor and
 10 Legislature by a specified date and to adopt rules;
 11 providing an appropriation; providing an effective
 12 date.

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 14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 16 Section 1. Subsection (8) is added to section 595.420,
 17 Florida Statutes, to read:

18 595.420 Food recovery; legislative intent; department
 19 functions.—

20 (8)(a) As used in this subsection:

21 1. "Agricultural company" means a fruit or vegetable
 22 producer in the state that has an affiliated shipper and is
 23 licensed under the United States Perishable Agricultural
 24 Commodities Act.

25 2. "Food recovery entity" means a nonprofit association

26 engaged in food recovery and distribution with at least 20 years
 27 of operation in the state.

28 (b) Subject to appropriation, the department shall
 29 implement a pilot program to provide funds to food recovery
 30 entities to expand capabilities for extending the shelf life of
 31 fresh produce, including, but not limited to, labor, purchasing,
 32 packaging, storage, transportation, and distribution.

33 (c) To qualify for funding under this section, the food
 34 recovery entity must apply to the department and provide
 35 documentation that it receives fresh fruits and vegetables from
 36 an agricultural company, has food processing equipment and
 37 production capabilities, and operates a job training program.

38 (d) The department shall submit a report on the pilot
 39 program, including recommendations for legislation, to the
 40 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
 41 House of Representatives by January 1, 2025.

42 (e) The department shall adopt rules to implement this
 43 subsection.

44 Section 2. For the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the sum of \$2
 45 million in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General
 46 Revenue Fund to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer
 47 Services to implement a pilot program pursuant to s. 595.420(8),
 48 Florida Statutes.

49 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.