2022 Rhode Island Food Policy Legislative Review

September 20, 2022
Policy for the People!
AGENDA

- Welcome & introduction to RIFPC
- Summary of session outcomes
- RIFPC Bill tracker
- Q&A
RHODE ISLAND FOOD SYSTEM HIGHLIGHTS

$12B
FOOD SECTOR ECONOMIC OUTPUT

75,800
FOOD JOBS

55,000
ACRES IN FARMLAND

1,043
FARMS

$100M
WILD-CAUGHT SEAFOOD AND AQUACULTURE VALUE

1 IN 6
HOUSEHOLDS STRUGGLING WITH HUNGER
KEY POINTS FROM THE 2022 NETWORK SURVEY

High-Priority Activities for Improving RI’s Food System by 2030:

- Preserve and protect agricultural land
- Reduce inequity in the food system
- Support small food businesses (providing capital & technical assistance)
- Ensure access to affordable, culturally-appropriate food for all people
- Promote climate-smart practices
OUR GOALS: 2023-2030

New England Feeding
New England: Cultivating a Reliable Food Supply
2022 Legislative Session Overview
RIFPC BILL TRACKER

- Tracks all legislation introduced
- Updated continuously
- Summary provided weekly

www.rifoodcouncil.org/policy/#billtracker
PANELISTS

Raul Figueroa  
M. Dawn King PhD  
Vernon R. Martin II
2022 Policy Actions & 2023 Policy Priorities

- Food Systems & Climate Change
- Food Access & Nutrition Security
- Wasted Food Prevention
- Food Business & Economy
Preserving agricultural land
- Including food systems in EC4 plans and metrics
- Supporting climate smart processes across the food system
2022 Policy Actions & 2023 Policy Priorities

Wasted Food Solutions

- Tax incentives for food donations
- Expansion and support for commercial composting
- Developing a comprehensive state plan to reduce wasted food
2022 Policy Actions & 2023 Policy Priorities

Ensure food access

- Supporting the U.S.D.A.’S guidance on nutrition security in regards to food sovereignty.
- Enabling local food producers to provide more products to the supplemental food infrastructure.
- Examining other states policies and models to enforce best practices.
Support our businesses

- Support second stage food businesses with shared-use infrastructure, marketing and technical assistance, grants, tax incentives, and low-cost loans.
- Require that a set percentage of selected incentives and grants go to historically underserved business owners.
QUESTIONS?
GET INVOLVED, JOIN A WORK GROUP!

FOOD ACCESS & PUBLIC HEALTH

FOOD & CLIMATE

FOOD BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SUBGROUP
- WASTED FOOD SOLUTIONS

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