



House Bill 272

Food Establishments – Lavatory Requirement and On-Farm Food Service Facility License

Position: **OPPOSE**

To: Environment and Transportation Committee

Date: February 2, 2026

From: County Commissioners of Worcester County

Worcester County has significant concerns with House Bill 272.

While we understand the intent of the bill, there is enough vagueness in the legislation that state agencies could end up creating policy via regulations that may not agree with the original legislative intent. Local departments are still waiting for the completion and implementation of other regulations from previously passed bills. Without aligning regulations to avoid conflicts with existing rules or even a timeframe for their adoption, local health departments will have no answers for the public when they have questions and want the new law implemented. There should also be a pathway for local environmental health departments to have a seat at the table to comment on proposed regulations.

Furthermore, this bill locks in a \$100 fee. There are noted fiscal concerns that the local agencies will have trouble meeting enforcement responsibilities within existing resources.

We urge you to provide an unfavorable report on House Bill 272 in its current form as significant amendments are needed to correct regulatory inconsistencies and provide county agencies with a fee that will sustain local enforcement efforts. Thank you.