



Good morning Senator Handley, Representative Sayers and members of the committee. My name is Carrie Rand-Anastasiades and I submit this testimony in opposition to Proposed Bill 258, An Act Prohibiting the Use of Trans Fats in Connecticut Food Service Establishments.

The bill has two provisions, one prohibiting the use of frying oils containing trans fat, which we have no issue with. The second provision prohibits food containing any artificial trans fats which would be problematic for our industry. Today, supermarkets serve prepared food out of the deli counter and in food courts as well as in the bakery which may contain trans fats. Although they do try very hard to use products that do not contain trans fats, sometimes it is unavoidable. In terms of the bakery, many of the items sold come in to the store fully prepared from the manufacturer and are “baked-off” by the store. The supermarket may not have the ability to ascertain if these items were indeed made with trans fats, which would make compliance with the law extremely difficult.

There is also a very significant problem for Kosher Markets – such as Crown Market in West Hartford. For a kosher individual, use of dairy and meat together can never be tolerated. Therefore, parve margarine must be substituted for butter. There is no parve margarine product currently on the market that does not contain trans fats. For Crown Market, to be forced not to sell kosher- parve items would severely impact their business.

In light of these problems, we respectfully ask the committee to reject the second provision of this bill. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.