2003 SENATE BILL 185

June 3, 2003 – Introduced by Senator KANAVAS, cosponsored by Representatives TOWNSEND, SHERMAN and BLACK. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Financial Institutions and Insurance.

1   AN ACT *to create* 97.55 of the statutes; **relating to:** sale of halal food.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law prohibits a person from doing any of the following with intent to defraud:

1. Falsely representing that any meat sold by the person is kosher and as having been prepared under orthodox Hebrew religious requirements.

2. Falsely representing that any food is kosher and as having been prepared under orthodox Hebrew religious requirements by having the word "kosher" on the food's package.

3. Selling both kosher and nonkosher meat unless each kind of meat is identified as kosher or nonkosher.

4. In a restaurant, falsely representing that food is kosher and as having been prepared under orthodox Hebrew religious requirements.

5. In a restaurant, selling both kosher and nonkosher food unless the window signs and display advertising state that both kosher and nonkosher foods are sold.

This bill creates prohibitions related to the sale of halal food that are the same as under current law related to kosher food. "Halal" is defined as prepared under and maintained in strict compliance with the laws and customs of the Islamic religion as expressed by reliable, recognized Islamic entities and scholars.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

2003 − 2004 Legislature   − 2 −   LRB−1031/1
RCT:cmh:cph
SENATE BILL 185   SECTION 1

1   SECTION **1.** 97.55 of the statutes is created to read:

2   **97.55 Halal food. (1)** In this section "halal" means prepared under and

3   maintained in strict compliance with the laws and customs of the Islamic religion,

4   including the laws and customs relating to slaughter, as expressed by reliable,

5   recognized Islamic entities and scholars.

6   **(2)** No person may, with intent to defraud, do any of the following:

7   (a) Sell or expose for sale any meat or meat preparation, whether raw or

8   prepared for human consumption, and falsely represent the meat or meat

9   preparation to be halal, and as having been prepared under and of a product or

10   products sanctioned by the Islamic religious requirements.

11   (b) Falsely represent any food product or the contents of any package or

12   container to be halal and as having been prepared under and of a product or products

13   sanctioned by the Islamic religious requirements, by having or permitting to be

14   inscribed on the package or container the word "halal" in any language.

15   (c) Sell or expose for sale in the same place of business both halal and nonhalal

16   meat or meat preparations, either raw or prepared for human consumption, unless

17   all of that person's window signs and display advertising indicate, in block letters at

18   least 4 inches in height, "Halal and Nonhalal Meat Sold Here".

19   (d) Expose for sale in any show window or place of business both halal and

20   nonhalal meat or meat preparations, either raw or prepared for human consumption,

21   unless the person displays over each kind of meat or meat preparation so exposed a

22   sign in block letters at least 4 inches in height reading "Halal Meat", or "Nonhalal

23   Meat", as the case may be.

24   **(3)** No person, with intent to defraud, may do any of the following:

1   (a) Sell or expose for sale in any such restaurant or other place where food

2   products are sold for consumption on the premises, any article of food or food

3   preparations that is falsely represented to be halal and as having been prepared in

4   accordance with the Islamic requirements.

5   (b) Sell or expose for sale in any restaurant or other place both halal and

6   nonhalal food or food preparations for consumption on the premises when not

7   prepared in accordance with the Islamic ritual and not sanctioned by the Islamic

8   religious requirements, unless the person's window signs and display advertising

9   state, in block letters at least 4 inches in height, "Halal and Nonhalal Food Served

10   Here".

11   **(END)**