

Dear Senator  
Ayer,

Thank you again for allowing the Vermont Chamber of Commerce to address your committee last week regarding S.70. Following my testimony, you received testimony from our partners, the National Restaurant Association, stating their commitment to healthy meal options for children nationally. Both of our organizations fully support good nutrition and understand the concerns about the links to obesity and chronic disease due to poor eating decisions. However, we would not support any mandate that will incur additional costs to doing business and that will limit the ability of restaurateurs to develop menus based on their individual customer's preferences.

Rather than a mandate, we recommend a partnership between Vermont restaurants and the American Heart Association to create menus that would provide additional healthy options for children's meals, rather than a mandate. One of the hottest trends in the restaurant industry is healthy food for children. We recommend utilizing that trend and working together to create healthy meals, while not impeding on menu determinations by individual restaurants.

Best regards,

Ronda

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