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| **8. Statutory Changes - long term** |
| **SITUATION:** Farmers, food entrepreneurs, food system advocates, and regulators in Minnesota have difficulty navigating complex food safety requirements and in state and local rules and regulations. Moreover, there is a disconnect in understanding around food safety practices and business innovations among these groups at the regional level.  |
| **Summary:** Identify statutes that need to be changed and pursue those changes.  |
| **Ask:** MDA/MDH/Delegated Agencies assist in statutory language development and in evaluation of food safety risks/benefits and implementation costs/savings of statutory changes proposed by local food system stakeholders.  |
| **INPUTS** | **OUTPUTS** (Activities) | **OUTCOMES** |
|  | Knowledge | Actions | Conditions |
| Statute researcher Funding – MN Legislature/GovernorOther state modelsSupport from Commissioners of MDA and MDH Design capacity for writing new statuteMedia support and attentionMDA/MDH involvement – participation, food safety expertise, assistance in writing draft statute Support and knowledge from agencies, university, and nonprofit organizations (stakeholders) to aid in changing statute | Research statutory changesEstablishment of leadership positionsMDA and MDH assist in draft creation/writing of one licensing statute Identify supporters and gain their commitment to action/helpingSupporters pursue implementation of statutory changes within legislature and governor’s officeTraining of regulatory staff about new statutes Targeted outreach to start-up food entrepreneurs about statutory changes | Reduced confusion around requirements on the part of food entrepreneursIncreased clarity and knowledge of statutory requirements | Food inspectors field fewer points of confusion.Reduced inaccuracies & repeat calls | Increase in business start-upsBack-and-forth confusion between MDA and MDH eliminatedUser experience improved |
| **ASSUMPTIONS:** Statutory changes will create a simplified licensing and regulations system that will allow more food entrepreneurs to easily enter and succeed within the system.  | **EXTERNAL FACTORS:** The success of this project will depend on willingness of the agencies’ to participate in the statutory changes process, the involvement of supporters/lobbyists to push for change, and how the idea is received/perceived by government decision makers.  |