

**Clerk of Parliament,**

Parliament of Barbados,

Worthing Corporate Centre,

Christ Church.

10/14/2021

Dear Sir,

### **NATIONAL VENDING BILL, 2021**

After reviewing the Bill as requested, the following are put forward for your consideration.

Where food vending is concerned, the vendor must comply with the Health Services Act CAP44. The Bill requires the vendor to have a Food Business license in order to operate. While this is desirable, it is not always practical. If the vendor is only selling small amounts of prepackaged foods such as soft drinks or packaged peanuts, a Health Certificate would be enough to operated safely. The acquisition of a Food Business license is additional bureaucracy hindering the ease of doing business. Where the person is applying to sell non prepackaged foods, the acquisition of the Food Business license is adequate.

It is therefore suggested that the Bill reads: “In the case of an applicant who seeks to operate as a food vendor, “

- (1) A certificate of good health issued by a registered medical practitioner; and
- (2) Possess the requisite license or permission pursuant to the Health Services Act CAP 44.

Paragraph 5. “Application for the grant of a license.” There are three requirements listed for meat shops. Please note that these three requirements

fall way short of the hygiene standard of modern meat shop. For example, critical to the functioning of any meat shop is the provision of refrigeration.

I am therefore suggesting that persons wanting to operate a meat shop should fall under the Food business license of the Health Services (Food Businesses) Regulations.

Yours faithfully,

Ronald Chapman

Dep. Chief Environmental Health Officer