

# The Good News about Good Sam

## Now It's Even Easier

### **Easier to Donate...**

On October 1, 1996, President Clinton signed the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to encourage donation of food and grocery products to non-profit organizations for distribution to needy individuals.

This new law makes it easier for you to donate. Here's how:

- It protects you from liability when you donate to a non-profit organization.
- It protects you from civil and criminal liability should the product donated in good faith later cause harm to the needy recipient.
- It standardizes donor liability exposure. You or your legal counsel no longer have to investigate liability laws in fifty states.
- It sets a liability floor of "gross negligence" or intentional misconduct for persons who donate grocery products. According to the new law, gross negligence is defined as "voluntary and conscious conduct by a person with knowledge (at the time of conduct) that the conduct is likely to be harmful to the health or wellness of another person."
- Congress recognized that the provision of food close to the date of recommended retail sale is, in and of itself, not grounds for finding gross negligence. For example, you can donate cereal marked close to code date for retail sale.

### **Easier to Do the Right Thing...**

Your company's support of Second Harvest Heartland and its network of hunger-relief agencies promotes corporate citizenship.

- Studies indicate that 80 percent of respondents would be encouraged to buy products from companies supporting hunger relief.
- The 1995 Market Potential Report found that 83 percent of over 240 companies polled cited "liability concerns" as the single greatest factor determining if their company would donate product.
- In the same report, 75 percent of 300 companies interviewed reported greater satisfaction with donating food and grocery products than with selling them to secondary markets, dumping or destroying them.

### **Second Harvest Heartland Food Bank Makes it Easy**

Donating is easier now than ever before. Second Harvest Heartland continues to meet or exceed the same federal good-handling and safety regulations that govern the food and grocery industry. Contact SHH at 651-484-5117 to have your donation picked up from any plant, warehouse or customer location in the state.

For the complete text of the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, visit our web site at [www.2harvest.org](http://www.2harvest.org).