

## Bill to protect food donors from civil liabilities

**KUALA LUMPUR:** A Bill has been tabled in the Dewan Rakyat to protect food donors from civil liabilities.

The Food Donors Protection Bill 2019, which was tabled by Domestic Trade and Consumerism Deputy Minister Chong Chieng Jen for its first reading, is expected to be passed in the present sitting which ends on Dec 5.

The proposed law covers not only those donating food "without any payment or and form or consideration" but also volunteers or those involved in distribution of such food.

Besides individuals, the protection against civil action also extends to corporations, foundations, government entities, manufacturers, suppliers, wholesalers, hypermarkets, supermarkets, hotels, restaurants, agricultural producers and charitable organisations.

The protection covers civil liability against any personal injury, disease or death by those who had consumed the donated or distributed food.

However, the protection is not absolute if it can be proven that personal injury, disease or death was due to the negligence and wilful misconduct of the donor.