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Ald. Michael J. Murphy
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Milwaukee's food grading system touted at the National Environmental Health Association annual conference

Alderman Michael Murphy reports that the City of Milwaukee food grading system was recognized as one of four programs nationwide that can be successfully replicated in other municipalities. This recognition was shared at the National Environmental Health Association annual educational conference held this week in Nashville, TN.

Alderman Murphy sponsored legislation to create the city's food grading system, and worked with the Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) to launch it in 2017, with the first letter grade issued in January 2018. The letter grade placards are posted at food service establishments following a MHD inspection.

By making information on health ratings readily accessible to the public, the system aims to motivate business owners to rectify code infractions before inspections occur. Another goal is to provide residents with greater access to information before they make their choices as to where to spend money at a food store or restaurant.

"I congratulate Ms. Claire Evers and MHD on their dedication and perseverance in the implementation of our now nationally recognized food grading system in Milwaukee," said Ald. Murphy. "This system has proven that owners of food establishments are taking the opportunity to keep their food practices safe while informing the public that they are responsible owner/operators who care about their customers and the health of our city."

MHD Consumer and Environmental Health Director Claire Evers said: "It's very exciting and rewarding to be recognized nationwide for the hard work and advancements that the City of Milwaukee is making concerning food safety. We appreciate the recognition and thank Ald. Murphy and council members for their continued support of our system."