

June 12, 2023

Donald Prater, D.V.M. Acting Director Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition 5001 Campus Drive College Park, Maryland 20740

Dear Dr. Prater:

As you are aware, the mission of the Conference for Food Protection (CFP/Conference) is to promote food safety through collaboration and partnership among federal, state, and local regulatory agencies; the food industry; academia; and consumer organizations.

On April 24-28, 2023, CFP held its Biennial Meeting in Houston, TX, with some events streamed virtually. The three Councils deliberated on a total of 117 Issues. Of these Issues, the Assembly of State Delegates (a group of representatives from 43 States, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands) accepted the recommendations for action from the Councils for 91 of the Issues. A number of the Issues deal directly with proposed changes to the current FDA Food Code.

As described in the Conference Procedures and addressed in our MOU with the FDA, the Conference Chair must convey any recommendations related to the Food Code to the FDA within 45 days of the Conference meeting, and by agreement, request written response from the FDA to those recommendations within 60 days of receipt. In addition to specific Food Code Issues, we are including several other Issues that recommend FDA's involvement.

In addition to an introduction, this letter contains the following parts:

- Part 1: Conference recommendations for changes to the most current version of the FDA Food Code. This is a listing of Conference recommendations for language changes to the Food Code, including the Food Code annexes.
- Part 2: Other Conference recommendations that may directly or indirectly affect future versions of the Food Code or that suggest FDA's involvement in some way (e.g., through committees, coordination with other agencies and organizations, or other relevant Issues).

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The CFP Executive Board will be holding a virtual Board meeting on Thursday, August 24, 2023. One of the items on the agenda for this meeting will be to review the recommendations of the Conference and FDA's response to those recommendations, as well as other pertinent Issues. In the interim, please feel free to contact me or Glenda Lewis, the FDA liaison on the CFP Executive Board, if you have any questions or concerns or if you need further clarification of the aforementioned recommendations.

FDA's support of and cooperation with the Conference of Food Protection through the years has resulted in an improved regulatory process and enhanced retail food safety. The CFP Executive Board looks forward to continuing this collaboration and partnership with FDA in the coming years. Together we can sustain the progress made in retail food safety to promote public health and meet consumer expectations.

Sincerely,

Christine Sylvig

Christine Sylvis, Chair Conference for Food Protection

ATTACHMENT

cc: Glenda Lewis, Director, Retail Food Protection Staff - FDA/CFSAN, Office of Food Safety CFP Executive Board

Attachment 1 - 2023 Conference for Food Protection Issue Recommendations Part 1 – Conference Recommendations for Changes to the FDA Food Code

| I-003 | Gloves Used as a Single-Use Disposable Utensil |
|---------|---|
| I-017 | Amend Food Code 3-301.11 - Double Handwashing and Nail Brush Usage |
| I-018 | Chemical Sanitizing test strips Expiration Date |
| I-025 | Amend Food Code to Include Procedures for Clean-Up of Vomit & Diarrhea |
| I-026 | Add Off-Site Warewashing Facilities for Multi Use Articles to Food Code |
| I-032 | Reducing Cross Contamination Risk from Use of Reusable Wiping Cloths |
| II-039 | FDC Issue 2–Amend 2022 FDA Food Code to add food defense rule under 2- 102 |
| II-040 | FDC Issue 3 – Amend FDA Food Code, Annex 2, Sect. 4 Food Defense references |
| II-043 | FSMS #2 Amend Food Code – Define Active Managerial Control and FSMS |
| II-048 | DFSSC 3 - Amend Food Code Annexes to Include Reference to Guidance Document |
| II-051 | Allergen Committee 3 Amend Annex 2 "References" Section of the Food Code |
| III-003 | IUMGC 3 - Amend Food Code |
| III-006 | RSHSC 3 – Amend Food Code Annexes to Reference Approved Document |
| III-008 | RSHSC 5 – Including Rice Acidification Parameters in Food Code |
| III-011 | SURCC 3 – Amend Food Code to Include Reusable Container Definition |
| III-012 | SURCC 4 – Amend Food Code Language to include Reuse of Containers |
| III-015 | DC 3 - Amend Food Code to Address Use of Disinfectants |
| III-016 | DC 4 - Amend Food Code Annex on Hand Antiseptics |
| III-017 | DC 5 - Amend Food Code Annex - Use of Disinfectants During Clean-up of V&D |
| III-023 | Revise definition of Reduced Oxygen Packaging specific to packaging type |
| III-025 | Amend Food Code to Clarify Fish Thawing Requirements in 3-501.13(E) |
| III-026 | Add new defined term "Impermeable" to clarify cook-chill processes |
| III-027 | Amend Food Code to Include Definition of "Preservation" |
| III-030 | Amend Food Code – Add Laboratory Methods for Reinstating III Food Workers |
| III-031 | Amend Food Code - Considerations for Bulk Refillable Hand Soap Dispensers |
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Part 2 – Other Recommendations to the Food and Drug Administration

| I-007 | Bread bakers adding sesame flour to recipe rather than "may contain." |
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| I-017 | Amend Food Code 3-301.11 - Double Handwashing and Nail Brush Usage |

| I-020 | FBIIC2-Interpret if 2022 FDA Food Code Provides Investigation Authority |
|---------|---|
| I-032 | Reducing Cross Contamination Risk from Use of Reusable Wiping Cloths |
| II-010 | PSC3 Tracking Versions of Standard 2 Appendix B-1 |
| II-011 | PSC4 Change Re-standardization Frequency for staff not standardizing others |
| II-016 | Verification Audit guidelines for Standard 2 with regards to Appendix B-1 |
| II-018 | PSC7 Std 3 Requirements and Self-Assessment & Verification Audit Form Edits |
| II-019 | PSC15 Incorporation of Plan Review into VNRFRPS Standard 3 |
| II-025 | PSC8 Create Standard 4 Verification Audit Instructions |
| II-026 | PSC9 Edits to Standard 5 and Definitions |
| II-028 | PSC17 Referencing Crosswalk – Requirements for Foodborne Illness Training |
| II-029 | PSC18 Requirements for Foodborne Illness Training Program Crosswalk Content |
| II-031 | PSC10 Standard 6 Establishment File Worksheet Form 3A |
| II-032 | PSC11 Draft Standard 6 Standardized Key Crosswalk to the 2017 FDA Food Code |
| II-034 | PSC12 Defining Standard 8 Verification Audit Parameters |
| II-037 | Retail Program Standards Verification Auditor Criteria |
| III-007 | RSHSC 4 – Review and Streamlining of Retail Sushi HACCP Process |
| III-019 | Create a Committee - Sea Moss and Sea Moss Gel Committee |
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