

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL EH DIRECTORS AND STAFF

DATE: JUNE 19, 2006

FROM: LARRY DWOSKIN, CCDEH PRESIDENT
GARY ERBECK, CCDEH FOOD SAFETY POLICY CHAIR
JUSTIN MALAN, CCDEH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: CALCODE IMPLEMENTATION

THIS MEMO IS INTENDED TO UPDATE ALL EH DIRECTORS AND THEIR STAFF ON WHAT CCDEH AND THE CRFSC ARE DOING TO PREPARE FOR THE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS NEW LAW. PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR STAFF.

On May 15, 2006 the Governor signed into law SB 144 (Runner) which enacted the California Retail Food Safety Act (CalCode).

This new law *which completely replaces CURFFL* represents the culmination of an extraordinary collaborative effort of the California Retail Food Safety Coalition (CRFSC) – a broad-based coalition of federal, state and local regulators and the retail food industry.

This comprehensive law is modeled on the federal Food Code and will accomplish a number of important public health objectives, including:

- Promotion of uniformity and consistency in retail food safety enforcement;
- Affording greater protection of highly susceptible populations, including children at school and community and elderly care facility clients;
- Ensuring that food safety regulation is based on best available science; and
- Facilitating understanding and compliance of laws through consolidation of statutory provisions.

THE NEW LAW TAKES EFFECT JULY 1, 2007. The full text SB 144 bill may be viewed at http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/bill/sen/sb_0101-0150/sb_144_bill_20060428_enrolled.html

Five major initiatives are underway to assist the local agencies prepare for the JULY 1, 2007 implementation date: These are:

A. REVISE CRFSC ORGANIZATION: JULY 2006

Value Added:

1. Broader recognition/higher profile;
2. Expanded membership to include academia, CCLHO & other organizations;
3. Clear organizational structure and operational procedures.

- B. PREPARE A CALCODE MARKING GUIDE/TRAINING CURRICULUM: JULY 2006**
Value Added: *Eliminates or significantly reduces need for each local jurisdiction to prepare its own CalCode inspection guidance and training materials through:*
1. ID and description of key elements in CalCode with changes from CURFFL;
 2. New CalCode contents, section citations and cross-references
 3. Uniform inspection issue identification and intervention;
 4. Scoring guide for use by those local jurisdictions who score their inspections;
 5. Single training guide based on MFC for both regulators and industry
 6. CRFSC and Loma Linda University to develop training materials
- C. PRODUCE A CALCODE DATA DICTIONARY: JULY 2006**
Value Added: *Provides for a single set of core retail facility inspection elements based on CalCode by:*
1. Using universally adopted electronic format – XML – compatible with all local data management systems;
 2. Incorporation of marking guide and drop-down comments/interventions and code references;
 3. Provides flexibility for additional optional fields/comments/scoring or placarding as needed by local jurisdictions;
 4. Facilitates local and statewide data gathering and interpretation;
 5. Obviates need for single state-wide inspection form while still using 50-60 core inspection elements and inspector responses; and
 6. Can be used for paper or electronic inspection reports.

THE DRAFT MARKING GUIDE/TRAINING CURRICULUM AND DATA DICTIONARY WILL BE POSTED ON THE CRFSC WEBSITE FOR ALL INTERESTED PARTIES TO REVIEW AND COMMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

- D. CONDUCT TRAIN-THE-TRAINER WORKSHOPS**
Value Added: A cadre of federal, state, local and industry instructors will be trained to the CRFSC curriculum and will be employed to train the 800 plus regulators and industry. CCDEH Regional Chairs will seek volunteers to be trainers.
- E. CONDUCT STATEWIDE INSPECTOR TRAINING**
Value Added: Provide best possible CalCode training to ALL retail food inspectors from local jurisdictions.
CAEHA, in collaboration with CEHA will facilitate the training of the 800 to 1,000 REHSs in a series of approximately 20 training workshops across the State conducted by the "CalCode Curriculum Standards" commencing late 2006.

ADDITIONAL CALCODE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE CRFSC WEBSITE:
www.crfsc.org

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS CALCODE IMPLEMENTATION INITIATIVE OR IF YOU WISH TO ASSIST IN ANY ONE OF THE KEY FIVE AREAS, PLEASE CONTACT GARY ERBECK ATOR JUSTIN MALAN AT justin@ccdeh.com