



March 31, 2011

TO: CRFSC Membership

FROM: Liza Frias, CRFSC Chair

SUBJECT: CRFSC March 17, 2011 Meeting

At the CRFSC general membership meeting held on March 17, 2011 there were two issue submissions that were brought to the membership for consideration and vote for inclusion in the CRFSC bill for the current legislative session. Subsequently, I received notification that two of the “veto authority” constituencies wish to exercise their veto vote.

- The first issue was recommended by Subcommittee A – Prohibition of Bare Hand Contact. At the time of the meeting, the membership voted to accept the recommended language. The California Restaurant Association made a decision to exercise their veto vote following the meeting.
- The second issue was Trans Fat in Temporary Food Facilities. This issue was not sent to Subcommittee B for review and consideration but rather a vote was taken by the membership to approve the recommended language in the issue submission. The designated representatives from the Mobile Units/Fairs constituency made a decision to exercise their veto vote following the meeting.

The Executive Committee (Steering Committee) convened by conference call on March 29, 2011 to discuss the veto issue. Clearly, the CRFSC’s own rules prohibit inclusion in a consensus, CRFSC sponsored bill, any language that has been vetoed by any one of the CRFSC core constituencies. To date, vetos have been cast in Steering Committee meetings, which have then been reported back to the membership, or at meetings of the full membership. The issue of exercising a veto vote after a general membership vote has not come up before and is not addressed in our structure and operating rules. To prevent this situation in the future, the Steering Committee will be drafting language for consideration by the full membership for incorporation into the Organizational Structure and Operation Rules document.

Since the CRFSC has only submitted language into legislation that was based on a consensus of all constituencies, the language as voted upon by the membership will not be included in the CRFSC legislative bill due to a core constituency exercising their veto vote.

It is important for the majority of the membership who voted in favor of the issue to note that the Prohibition of Bare Hand Contact will again be brought to the CRFSC membership as part of Subcommittee A’s charge. The California Restaurant Association has also agreed to revisit this issue with its membership for further consideration.

The Western Fairs Association has also agreed to have their issue brought to Subcommittee B for further discussion and recommendation.

Lastly, the Steering Committee will develop additional written guidance on the use of veto authority, with the goal of avoiding this unfortunate occurrence in the future. As is the case with any organization, we often need to revisit our process in an effort to ensure that we continue to meet our mission.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

C: Executive Committee