

R&R 22-01 to Align with Updated State Food Code Regulations

Board of Health April 21st, 2022

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Mission of the Food Protection Program

To reduce the risk of foodborne illnesses by promoting safe food handling practices in all our retail food establishments.

Food and Facilities Program

- > 12,000 retail food businesses and ~ 3,000 temporary events and Farmers Markets
- ~800 food business plans reviewed/approved.
- > 15,000 food safety inspections and ~ 5,000 food safety consultation visits
- >50,000 food handlers training online and inperson.
- > 1,000 public complaints
- ~ 100 foodborne outbreaks



Background on R&R 22-01

- Chapter 246-215 WAC and Title 5 of King County Food Code, which adopts WAC 246-215 by reference.
- Previous version of Chapter 246-215 WAC was based on the 2009 U.S. FDA Model Food Code.
- As of March 1, 2022, Chapter 246-215 WAC is based on the 2017 version of the FDA Model Food Code.
- WA-SBOH has adopted Chapter 246-215 WAC incorporating from simple edits, repeal of outdated sections, and definition updates to significant changes in food safety practices.
- WA-DOH is recommending a six months educational grace period to help food businesses implement the new changes.

State stakeholder involvement

- The revisions are the outcome of a multi-year process coordinated by the Washington State Food Safety Advisory Council (FSAC).
- The FSAC is comprised of voting stakeholders:
 - Regulatory agencies,
 - Consumer advisory groups,
 - Hospitality businesses and
 - Concerned citizens.

PHSKC coordinated with DOH food safety program to receive input from King County businesses.

Certified Food Protection Manager Requirement

Date Marking for 7-Day

Changes to the State Food Code

Refilling Reusable Consumer-Owned Containers

Vomit and Diarrhea Cleanup Kit

Dogs in Outdoor and Some Indoor Areas

Donated Foods

Changes to the State Food Code

Mobile Food Units

Employee Health

Food-Specific Changes

Equity Implications

- None of the changes are anticipated to have significant economic or operational impacts to any size of food business.
- DOH is implementing an educational grace period (and avoiding penalties for compliance deficiencies) to provide additional time for retail food business owners to fully understand the requirements and incorporate the changes into their practices.

Questions?

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