

Georgia Public Health Team Meeting
September 8, 1999
Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Introduction of visitors
3. Group photograph with Gov. Barnes
4. Update on PH Team Directory cover
5. FDA Food Code -- Dr. Koehler, Div. Of Public Health
6. Responsibilities of GA Dept. of Agriculture and County Environmentalists
6. Announcement of State Food Safety Task Force
7. Other issues & comments
8. Planning for next meeting
9. Adjournment

1998 CSTE ANNUAL MEETING

CSTE/NASPHV POSITION STATEMENT # ID 15

COMMITTEE: Infectious Diseases

TITLE: Adoption of the FDA Model Food Code by State and Local Food Regulatory Agencies

ISSUE: Many of the 3,200 states and local agencies that regulate food safety at restaurants, food stores, institutions, food carts, vending machines and temporary events are using regulations that are no longer current. These regulations do not adequately address many current food safety issues and this non-uniformity results in a patch work food protection system when viewed from a national perspective. Adoptions of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Code by these agencies would give them a state-of-the-art regulation that would address current public health issues.

POSITION TO BE ADOPTED: CSTE endorse adoption of the provisions of the FDA Food Code by the appropriate state and local agencies in their states and territories.

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION: The U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) under its legal obligation to support and promote state and local public health programs has developed and promoted several editions of model regulations for safe food preparation at the retail level since the 1930's. The Food and Drug Administration has fulfilled this obligation since it was made a part of the PHS. Since 1994, the Food Code has been developed in a collaborative public process through the Conference of Food Protection (CFP) which meets every other year. Representatives of state and local retail food regulatory agencies, industry, academia, consumers and federal agencies (the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], FDA, and U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA]) have input at the CFP with state retail food regulatory delegates having the final vote on what changes are recommended to the FDA for incorporation in the next version of the code. The 1997 version of the food Code has been endorsed by the Health and Human Services, the USDA, CDC, FDA the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), industry organizations, and food safety related professional organizations. Secretary of Agriculture Glickman, and Secretary of Health and Human Services Shallala recently sent a joint letter to the Governors of the fifty states encouraging them to support adoption of the Food Code in their respective states. CSTE should join in the effort to gain more wide spread adoption of the Food Code.

COORDINATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

Agencies for Response: Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO)
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
(NASDA)

National Association of City and County Health Officials

Agencies for Information: Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), U.S. Department of
Agriculture
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

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