



## EAST SHORE DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

October 11, 2017

Dear Food Establishment Operator/Owner,

The East Shore District Health Department (ESDHD) would like to take this opportunity to inform you that the State of Connecticut changed the regulations governing food service establishments in our State, effective July 1, 2018. In anticipation of these new food regulations for your food business operation(s), we intend to hold several local meetings to outline and assist you and your staff with the new Connecticut food changes.

**Please note:** These new regulations are State-level changes, not local health department changes, and we are also in the process of understanding the FDA Food Code.

Enclosed is a copy of the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health Food Protection Program (DPH FPP) Circular Letter #2017-32 that summarizes the proposed changes to our Food Code. Also included is a description of the differences in the new classifications.

Effective July 1, 2018, the DPH FPP will be adopting the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) Food Model Code. However, there are two *very important changes* that will become effective on **October 1, 2017**:

1. Hot and cold holding temperatures for TCS foods (time/temperature controlled for safety foods), previously known as potentially hazardous foods):
  - Cold holding temps **new 41° F.** or below (OLD 45° F. or below)
  - Hot holding temps **new 135° F.** or above (OLD 140° F. or above)
2. The risk classification for food establishments will change to better reflect the food safety risks associated with the processes utilized and the population served. Inspection frequencies may change based on the reclassification. East Shore District Health Department will be reviewing each food establishment and will notify you of your new category.

During the months of October and November we will be contacting you to make sure you received this information and to schedule several informational meetings to be held in January 2018 to discuss these pending changes. Attendance is **strongly recommended!** Please plan to attend or send a representative to at least one of these meetings to be held at the Health District office and other selected locations TBD.

Should you have any additional questions, please visit our website at [www.esdhd.org](http://www.esdhd.org) that further outlines the new FDA Food Code changes for Connecticut, or contact our office at (203) 481-4233.

Sincerely,

*Alex Cinotti*

Alex Cinotti, R.S., M.P.H.  
Assistant Director of Health  
East Shore District Health Department