



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
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To: Alameda County Retail Food Operators (restaurants, markets, and other)

From: Department of Environmental Health

Subject: Major changes in California Law that regulates Retail Food

On July 1, 2007 the **California Retail Food Code** will become the food law for California. This letter and the attached document is to inform you of the major changes and where you may find additional information and ask questions.

Major issues which differ from current law (see attached document for details):

- increased emphasis on reducing food borne illness risk factors
- a requirement that every facility have a **“Person In Charge”** (PIC) at all times
- PIC required to notify Environmental Health of ill employees
- requirements for additional employee training
 - o hot dog cart vendors and tamale cart vendors must have a food safety certificate
- makes food safety certificates valid for 5 years (currently valid for 3 years)

Approved Food Safety Certificates Testing Agencies:

- National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (ServeSafe)
- Thomson Prometric (formerly Experior Assessments)
- National Registry of Food Safety Professionals

Contact this office for a list of classes given by this department and by private providers.

Food Safety class contact: Celina Guerra-Martinez – (510)567-6718

Websites for additional information including a full copy of the new code:

Alameda County Environmental Health

<http://www.acgov.org/aceh/food/index.htm>

for email contact

http://www.acgov.org/form_app/feedback/feedback.jsp?id=DEH

California Environmental Health Association (CEHA)

<http://www.ceha.org/>