

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Health Council (Council) of the Ohio Department of Health and the Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture have jointly proposed to amend existing rules 3717-1-01, 3717-1-02.1 through 3717-1-03.5, 3717-1-03.7, 3717-1-04.1, 3717-1-04.2, 3717-1-04.4, 3717-1-04.5, 3717-1-05.1 through 3717-1-05.3, 3717-1-06, 3717-1-06.1, 3717-1-06.4, 3717-1-07.1, 3717-1-08, 3717-1-09, and 3717-1-20; and to adopt new rule 3717-1-08.4 of the Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.). This action was taken under the authority of section 3717.05 of the Ohio Revised Code. These rules pertain to food service operations and retail food establishments.

In accordance with Chapter 119 of the Revised Code, the Council and the Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture will jointly conduct a public hearing on the proposed action on Thursday, September 2, 2004 beginning at 10:00 a.m. The hearing will be conducted in the 8th floor conference room, Ohio Department of Health, 246 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio.

At the hearing, persons affected by the proposed action may appear and be heard in person, by their attorney or both; may present their positions, arguments, or contentions orally or in writing; may offer witnesses; and may present evidence tending to show that the proposed rules, if adopted or effectuated, will be unreasonable or unlawful. Persons intending to testify are encouraged to preregister by writing Kaye Norton, Office of the General Counsel, Ohio Department of Health, P.O. Box 118, Columbus, Ohio 43216-0118, or by telephoning (614) 466-4882.

Copies of the proposed rules are available from Ms. Norton or on the Ohio Department of Health's web site at <http://www.odh.state.oh.us>. Written comments also may be submitted to both of the following individuals on or before September 2, 2004:

Ms. Norton at the above address, faxed to (614) 728-7813, or e-mailed to knorton@odh.ohio.gov,

and

Peter Esselburne, Esq., Ohio Department of Agriculture Legal Services, at 8995 E. Main Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068, faxed to (614) 995-4585, or e-mailed to foodsafety@mail.agr.state.oh.us.

7/22/04