

## Conference for Food Protection 2006-2008 Executive Board Meeting Committee Update – Critical Item Committee Report

**Date of Committee Report:** July 24, 2006

**Submitted By:** Dale Yamnik, Committee Chair, and Keith Winkler, Vice Chair

**Committee Charge:**

**Issue 2006-I-029 stated:**

The Conference recommends that the FDA continue the charge issued by the 2004 CFP (2004-I-011) to completion and:

1. Remove the term "critical item" from the Food Code and replace it with a more appropriate term or terms;
2. Redesignate Food Code provisions in terms of their relationship to the risk factors most likely to contribute to foodborne illness and the public health interventions and good retail practices that result in safer food and protect the consumer; and

Work with all stakeholders including a committee created by CFP on draft proposals and submit an issue at the 2008 Conference for Food Protection.

**Issue 2006-I-030 stated:**

The Conference recommends that a Committee be formed under Council I made up of CFP Stakeholders to provide feedback to the FDA Criticality Work Group regarding:

- Removal of the term "critical item" from the Food Code and replacement with a more appropriate term or terms;
- Provision of clear and defensible definitions for each of the new terms created;
- Development of an objective process, based on sound science and epidemiological data related to the prevention of foodborne illness, that can be used by multiple individuals to come to a consistent, logical conclusion; and
- Re-designation of Food Code provisions regarding their relationship to the risk factors identified by CDC or where epidemiological data indicates they are most likely to contribute to foodborne illness.

**Committee Membership:**

A list of the Committee Membership is attached.

**Progress Report/Committee Activities:**

To date the committee has been formed and approved by the board. The Committee Chair has contacted Shirley Bohm, FDA lead, for this committee and a conference call will be scheduled in the near future to review FDA's work and direction on this issue. Documents created under the 2004-2006 critical item committee (2006 Committee report, definitions, criticality protocol and criticality determination form) have been distributed to the committee and a letter of introduction and announcement requesting confirmation that the selected members still have a desire to serve on the committee.