

**Conference for Food Protection
2018 Issue Form**

Issue: 2018 I-026

Council Recommendation: Accepted as Submitted _____ Accepted as Amended _____ No Action _____

Delegate Action: Accepted _____ Rejected _____

All information above the line is for conference use only.

Issue History:

This issue was submitted for consideration at a previous biennial meeting, see issue: 2016 I-036; new or additional information has been included or attached and the recommended solution has been revised.

Title:

Amend Food Code - Add Time/Date Together as a Method of Date Marking

Issue you would like the Conference to consider:

We would like the CFP to consider amending the most current published edition of the Food Code by adding the FDA clarification from the Food Code Reference System and contained in "Using exact times when date marking (002)¹, confirming that using time in combination with a date to capture the exact 7-day period that is based on a 24 hour/day interval as an acceptable date marking system. This allows a retailer to better control food waste by following the intent of the regulation while maintaining the safety of public health.

Because the Food Code is not clear, use of time/date combinations has been identified as a violation. By adding the clarification to the Food Code it will eliminate the need to formally address this with the regulatory authority as a repeat violation and to prevent the potential of incurring re-inspection fees.

Public Health Significance:

The addition of the clarification revision will not impact public health.

Recommended Solution: The Conference recommends...:

that a letter be sent to the FDA requesting the most current published edition of FDA Food Code be amended as follows (new language is underlined):

Section 3-501.17(D) subsection (4)

(4) Using calendar dates, days of the week, color-coded marks, time in combination with the date, or other effective marking methods, provided that the marking system is disclosed to the REGULATORY AUTHORITY upon request.

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Supporting Attachments:

- "Using exact times when date marking"

It is the policy of the Conference for Food Protection to not accept Issues that would endorse a brand name or a commercial proprietary process.