

Elaine Young

Authorized Signature

Number: APD-IM-14-014

Issue Date: 3/17/2014

Topic: Other

Subject: SB 631 and Food Licensing

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): |

The 2013 Oregon Legislative passed Senate Bill 631 to require government entities that serve food to the public to be licensed by the local health department. This new provision in ORS 624 was **effective January 1, 2014**. Senate Bill 631 was passed in response to a Norovirus outbreak at the Oregon Zoo, which is run by Metro, a regional government body in the Portland Metropolitan Area. The Legislature enacted SB 631 to address the fact that the Zoo and other government entities were exempt from the food service license and inspection requirements.

Since this change will affect some facilities that are of a non-profit or benevolent nature (senior centers and schools) they may face costs of achieving compliance. Senior centers do not meet the exact definition of a benevolent organization. However, they are considered benevolent for licensing purposes because senior centers have a benevolent approach (fundraising activities or feeding needy populations). This allows local health departments to issue reduced fee licenses for benevolent organizations.

County Health Departments are taking a measured approach to implementation of SB 631. They will contact previously exempt organizations directly about working towards compliance.

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

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