

Date: 12/13/2022
From: PFLM Combined Work Group Report
To: Pet Food Committee

Recommendation:

In 2015 the AAFCO board of directors provided the following charge to the Pet food committee: “Review and consider potential changes to modernize pet food labeling that enhances transparency and expands safety, taking into account the following:

- Alignment with human food nutrition box formatting
- Use of front-of-packaging nutrition cues
- Consideration of microbial risks and safe handling instructions
- Availability of new sugar and dietary starch methods; and use of modern fiber labeling”

In response to the charge, the AAFCO Pet Food Committee created four work groups made up of regulators and industry representatives the work groups (Nutrition Facts Box, Nutritional Adequacy, Ingredient, Statement and Safe Handling) developed language to modernize pet food labels for better consumer understanding. The work groups have worked diligently both on their own and together, utilizing the knowledge and experience of their members with input from consumer market research to complete the task they were given.

Collectively, the work groups recommend that PFC accept the work group report which includes the attached:

- Draft of changes in language to the Pet Food Model Regulations and delete and replace the current PF regulations starting on page 139 through 151 of the 2023 AAFCO OP (hardcopy) and;
- The Facts Box Example and Key guidance document which should be placed immediately after PF12.