

Model Bills and Regulations Committee Report
2021 AAFCO Mid-Year Meeting
January 21, 2021 – Virtual

Committee Recommendations:

Board Recommendations:

Association Actions:

Committee Report and Minutes:

Model Bills and Regulations Committee Chairman Doug Lueders called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. on Jan. 21, 2021. He welcomed committee members, industry advisers and guests who were present. He also introduced the following new committee members: Dan King (Minnesota), who will serve as the committee's co-chair, and Sherrie Krolczyk (FDA).

Other committee members participating in the meeting were: Ametra Berry (Georgia), Ken Bowers (Kansas), Eric Brady (Tennessee), Charlotte Conway (FDA), David Dressler (Pennsylvania), George Ferguson (North Carolina), Ben Jones (Texas), Eric Nelson (FDA), Richard Ten Eyck (Oregon), Tim Tyson (FDA), and Scott Ziehr (Colorado).

Industry advisers participating were Meghan Dicks and Steve Younker (AFIA), Dave Dzanis (APPA/ACVN), Emily Helmes (ETA), Jan Campbell and David Fairfield (NGFA), and Angele Thompson and Pat Tovey (PFI).

AAFCO Executive Director Sue Hayes and AAFCO Executive Assistant Melissa Kunze also participated in the meeting.

Minutes from Previous Committee Meetings

Chairman Lueders noted that minutes from the committee's Aug. 5, 2020 virtual meeting were previously approved on Sept. 20, posted on the AAFCO website and Feed BIN, and were included in the 2021 AAFCO Mid-Year Meeting Committee Reports.

Committee Labeling Work Group Report

George Ferguson, chair of the work group established to consider potential changes to AAFCO's definition for "labeling," reported that the workgroup would make recommendations to the committee during the 2021 AAFCO annual meeting.

Old Business

Chairman Lueders noted that no old business had been carried forward from the 2020 annual meeting.

New Business

1. Flavors

The committee discussed language in 21 CFR 501.22 that pertains to federal label requirements associated with animal food flavors to consider whether AAFCO should address interpretation and implementation issues associated with the requirements. It was noted that Richard Ten Eyck has made available a video at <https://youtu.be/6R5rV7ckUm4> that provides an overview of 21 CFR 501.22 requirements.

Issues associated with the labeling of flavors mentioned by committee members that AAFCO potentially could address included: 1) clarifying how flavor products used in the further manufacture of an animal food are to be labeled in comparison to the label requirements for animal foods containing flavors that are received by the final consumer; and 2) facilitating a more uniform adoption by states to allow the use of the elective declaration language provided in 21 CFR 501.22(g)(2).

In response to the discussion, David Dressler moved that a work group be formed to evaluate issues associated with 21 CFR 501.22 and make recommendations on whether AAFCO should address, and, if so, which AAFCO committee should further evaluate the topic. Ken Bowers seconded the motion. The committee voted to approve.

Individuals designated by Chairman Lueders to serve on the workgroup were Dan King (chair), Bill Burkholder, Jan Campbell, Meghan Dicks, Karen Donnelly, David Dressler, Dave Dzanis, and Angele Thompson.

Other Business

Chairman Lueders noted that the AAFCO Pet Food Committee sent guidelines for products making therapeutic diet claims to the committee for review for standardization with the Model Bill. To do so, he stated the guidelines would be distributed to the committee electronically for review and potential approval by e-vote.

Adjournment

Chairman Lueders asked whether there was any other business to be considered by the committee. Given that none was identified, the committee meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

On behalf of the Model Bills and Regulations Committee, I respectfully submit this report and request acceptance of the report by the AAFCO Board of Directors and the Association membership.