

**ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN FEED CONTROL OFFICIALS (AAFCO)
1800 SOUTH OAK STREET, SUITE 100
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS**

**MINUTES OF THE MODEL BILLS AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE MIDYEAR MEETING
HELD AT THE NEW ORLEANS MARRIOTT
555 CANAL STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
JANUARY 21, 2026, 10:45 A.M. CT**

MEMBERS:

Dan King	Co-Chair
Jordan Mancini	Co-Chair
Josh Arbaugh	
Kristen Green	
Jen Abrahamzon	
Ben Jones	
Tim Tyson	

ADVISORS:

Pat Tovey
Angele Thompson
Stephanie Adams
Dan Frank
Leann Meyer
Cathy Alinovi
Charles Starkey
Renee Streeter
Bill Bookout
Emily Helmes

GUESTS:

Austin Therrell	Executive Director, AAFCO
Lori Goshert	Recording Secretary, Minutes Solutions Inc. (via teleconference)

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, and adequate and proper notice of the meeting having been given, the meeting was called to order at 10:45 a.m.

2. COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

2.1 Workgroup Cleanup

2.1.1 Statement for Uniform Interpretation and Policy (SUIP) No. 7

On a motion made by Dan King, seconded by Ben Jones, it was resolved to disband the Workgroup for SUIP No. 7. Motion carried.

Mancini noted that the motion to disband the Workgroup for SUIP No. 7 was originally intended to be addressed at the 2025 Annual Meeting but is instead being presented at this time. It was

also noted that although the Workgroup proposal to incorporate SUIP No. 7 failed to pass at Annual, suggestions were made to create a workgroup to analyze this SUIP or turn it into a regulation.

2.1.2 SUIP No. 9

On a motion made by Josh Arbaugh, seconded by Ben Jones, it was resolved to disband the Workgroup for SUIP No. 9. Motion carried.

Mancini noted that the motion to disband the Workgroup for SUIP No. 9 was originally intended to be addressed at the 2025 Annual Meeting but is instead being presented at this time.

2.2 Update – SUIP Numbering Review Workgroup

Cathy Alinovi reported that the SUIP Numbering and Review Workgroup has not met recently. It was noted that the minutes of the August 5, 2025, Committee meeting contain the Workgroup's charge, a suggestion regarding the numbering system, and the names of those who volunteered to participate. Anyone else who wishes to participate should contact Cathy Alinovi.

2.3 Update – Licensing Harmonization/Fee Structure Standardization Workgroup

Austin Therrell reported that the Licensing Harmonization/Fee Structure Standardization Workgroup has met once to discuss its goals. The Workgroup has two significant goals:

- Licensing and registration harmonization: Review the options listed in the model bills for licensing, registration, or a combination, and consider the best model for AAFCO to recommend to states.
- Fee structure standardization: Review the payment fee structure and draft a standard for AAFCO to recommend to states in order to coordinate their billing schedules, even if their fiscal years differ.

It was noted that the Workgroup appeared to be working under a two-pronged charge. There was also confusion regarding the name of the Workgroup.

Pat Tovey cited a discussion regarding the Accepted Labels State Tracking and Repository application and suggested that its background be considered for discussion within the AAFCO Label Review Workgroup. It might also provide relevant context for the Licensing Harmonization Workgroup.

2.4 Update – Feed Standards Subcommittee

The Feed Standards Subcommittee was created when the committees were reorganized. No official chair has been named, and the Subcommittee has not met.

During the Board meeting on January 19, 2026, Jennifer Godwin volunteered to chair the Subcommittee. Anyone interested in joining the Subcommittee should contact a Model Bills and Regulations Committee member. Regulators and volunteers from states enrolled in the Animal Feed Regulatory Program Standards are especially wanted.

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Workgroup to Investigate Inconsistencies

Austin Therrell cited a discussion regarding contradictory language between model and pet food regulations and noted that it has likely been a long time since a committee performed a crosswalk between the two. He noted that there have been substantive changes within the pet food label modernization project and suggested that a workgroup be created to ensure the two systems align with each other and with the model bills. New technology, such as artificial intelligence (AI), should facilitate such an endeavor.

Jen Abrahamzon volunteered to lead the new workgroup. Kristen Green and Cathy Alinovi agreed to participate. Dan Frank agreed to find a volunteer from the American Feed Industry Association; Leann Meyer agreed to find a volunteer from the National Grain and Feed Association, most likely herself; and Emily Helmes agreed to participate on behalf of the Enzyme Technical Association. Anyone interested in participating should contact Jen Abrahamzon.

Angele Thompson noted that the Committee, along with the Animal Feed Committee, Pet Food Committee, and Ingredient Definitions Committee, was mentioned in a discussion regarding enzyme activity in units. There are inconsistencies between model regulations, pet food regulations, and label guidance regarding enzyme labeling in commercial feeds and pet food.

Jen Abrahamzon noted that the new workgroup could address inconsistencies identified by other committees and asked what the workgroup's charge should be. It was suggested that the workgroup use AI to review the model and pet food regulations and highlight the differences.

4. NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was not scheduled.

5. ADJOURNMENT

It was agreed that there was no further business to transact; the meeting closed at 11:08 a.m.

DISCLAIMER

The above minutes should be used as a summary of the motions passed and issues discussed at the meeting. This document shall not be considered a verbatim copy of every word spoken at the meeting.

Director

Director

Date

Date