COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
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Joint Board Matter with Supervisor Storck

Chapter 43.2 The Fairfax County Food Code

Members of the Board,

Following the most recent Health and Human Services Committee meeting, we recommend replacement of the present County requirements on the regulation of food and food service establishments, now set forth in Chapter 43.1 of the Fairfax County Code, with a new Chapter 43.2 containing requirements based on a new federal model for the handling of food and food service establishments. The current Chapter 43.1 of the Fairfax County Code (also known as the Food and Food Handling Code) was adopted in 2006 and generally followed the 2005 version of the model code published by the Federal Drug Administration and the United States Public Health Service ("FDA/USPHS"). The ordinance being presented here proposes a new Chapter 43.2 with requirements based on a new model code published by the FDA/USPHS as the 2017 Food Code.

Fairfax County continues to be a leader in implementing regulatory standards and practices that help to protect the public's health and safety. Although Chapter 43.1 continues to provide valuable protection for the public's health, it does not address significant food safety concerns related to, for example, mobile food vending requirements in approved right-of-way locations, cottage food operations provisions, and requirements for pets in outdoor dining areas.

The adoption of Chapter 43.2 has established basic guidelines for food establishments to conduct outdoor cooking practices, the inclusion of additional food items that require time/temperature control for safety, and added the current designations for food safety violations based on an association with foodborne illness.

THEREFORE, we ask without objection, that the Board authorize a public hearing for the adoption of Chapter 43.2 of the Fairfax County Code.