

CHAPTER 207
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INTRODUCED BY Assembly Member Mendoza
(Principal coauthor: Senator Alquist)

DECEMBER 21, 2006

An act to add Chapter 12.6 (commencing with Section 114377) to Part 7 of Division 104 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to food facilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 97, Mendoza. Food facilities: trans fats.

Existing law, the California Uniform Retail Food Facilities Law (CURFFL), provides for the regulation of health and sanitation standards for retail food facilities by the State Department of Public Health. Under existing law, local health agencies are primarily responsible for enforcing CURFFL. A violation of CURFFL is a misdemeanor.

This bill would require every food facility, except a public school cafeteria, to maintain on the premises the label required for any food or food additive that is, or includes, any fat, oil, or shortening, for as long as this food or food additive is stored, distributed, or served by, or used in the preparation of food within, the food facility.

This bill would also, commencing January 1, 2010, prohibit oil, shortening, or margarine containing specified trans fats for specified purposes, from being stored, distributed, or served by, or used in the preparation of any food within, a food facility. It would also, commencing January 1, 2011, prohibit any food containing artificial trans fat, from being stored, distributed, or served by, or used in the preparation of any food within, a food facility. The bill would exempt from these prohibitions, specified public school cafeterias and food sold or served in a manufacturer's original, sealed package.

By creating a new crime and adding to the duties of local officials, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that with regard to certain mandates no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

With regard to any other mandates, this bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs so mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall

be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 12.6 (commencing with Section 114377) is added to Part 7 of Division 104 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

CHAPTER 12.6. TRANS FATS

114377. (a) Every food facility shall maintain on the premises the label for any food or food additive that is, or includes, any fat, oil, or shortening, for as long as this food or food additive is stored, distributed, or served by, or used in the preparation of food within, the food facility. The label described in this subdivision refers to the label that is required by applicable federal and state law to be on the food or food additive at the time of purchase by the food facility.

(b) (1) Commencing January 1, 2010, no oil, shortening, or margarine containing artificial trans fat for use in spreads or frying, except for the deep frying of yeast dough or cake batter, may be stored, distributed, or served by, or used in the preparation of any food within, a food facility.

(2) Commencing January 1, 2011, no food containing artificial trans fat, including oil and shortening that contains artificial trans fat for use in the deep frying of yeast dough or cake batter, may be stored, distributed, or served by, or used in the preparation of any food within, a food facility.

(c) Subdivision (b) shall not apply to food sold or served in a manufacturer's original, sealed package.

(d) For purposes of this section, a food contains artificial trans fat if the food contains vegetable shortening, margarine, or any kind of partially hydrogenated vegetable oil, unless the label required on the food, pursuant to applicable federal and state law, lists the trans fat content as less than 0.5 grams per serving.

(e) This section shall not apply to public elementary, middle, junior high, or high school cafeterias.

(f) Notwithstanding Section 114395, a violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25) or more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution for certain costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district because, in that regard, this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

However, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains other costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.