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Mike Beam, Secretary

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NEWS RELEASE

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Hearing for Proposed Revisions to Kansas Food Code

MANHATTAN, Kansas — A public hearing will be conducted at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, April 17, 2023, to consider the adoption of proposed revisions to the regulatory requirements for retail food establishments. The hearing will be held in person at the Kansas Department of Agriculture at 1320 Research Park Dr. in Manhattan, as well as via video conferencing system.

KDA is proposing revisions to K.A.R. 4-28-8 to update the regulatory requirements for retail food establishments contained in the Kansas Food Code. The Kansas Food Code sets food safety standards for Kansas retail food establishments, and the current regulatory requirements have not been updated since 2012. These proposed regulatory revisions are based on the Model Food Code currently used by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, which was adopted in 2017.

The proposed revisions include amendments to several sections of the Kansas Food Code. These changes will provide some clarity to food safety requirements and enhance safety practices in retail food establishments. They will also provide uniformity between the requirements imposed on retail food establishments in Kansas and other states.

KDA uses the public hearing and comment process to improve decisions, and appreciates public participation in the process. A copy of the updated Kansas Food Code, the expanded notice of public hearing (including a brief overview of the substantive revisions), and the economic impact statement may be accessed on the KDA website at agriculture.ks.gov/PublicComment. Anyone desiring to participate via video conference must pre-register at that page to be provided with a video link. Written comments can be submitted on the public comment web page prior to the hearing or sent to the Kansas Department of Agriculture, 1320 Research Park Dr., Manhattan, KS 66502.

Any individual with a disability may request accommodation in order to participate in the public hearing and may request a copy of the regulation in an accessible format. Persons

who require special accommodations must make their needs known at least two working days prior to the hearing. For more information, including special accommodations or a copy of the regulation, please contact Ronda Hutton at 785-564-6715 or Ronda.Hutton@ks.gov.

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