Notice of Intended Action

Proposing rule making related to food establishments and home food processing establishments and providing an opportunity for public comment

The Inspections and Appeals Department hereby proposes to amend Chapter 30, “Food and Consumer Safety,” and Chapter 31, “Food Establishment and Food Processing Plant Inspections,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 10A.104(5) and 137F.2.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, 2022 Iowa Acts, House File 2431.

Purpose and Summary

This proposed rule making amending Chapters 30 and 31 implements 2022 Iowa Acts, House File 2431, and makes revisions in conformance with the proposed replacement of Chapter 34, “Home Bakeries,” with a new Chapter 34, “Home Food Processing Establishments” (ARC 6454C, IAB 8/10/22). House File 2431 defines “home food processing establishment” and expands opportunities for the sale of homemade food items through the home food processing establishment license, formerly the home bakery license. It also defines “cottage food” and exempts cottage food from state licensing and inspection.

Fiscal Impact

This rule making has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, there may be a positive impact on jobs through increased opportunity for self-employment. This rule making, in conjunction with the authorizing legislation (2022 Iowa Acts, House File 2431), creates opportunities for the sale of cottage food.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rule making would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Department for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 481—Chapter 6.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on August 30, 2022. Comments should be directed to:
Public Hearing

No public hearing is scheduled at this time. As provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1) “b,” an oral presentation regarding this rule making may be demanded by 25 interested persons, a governmental subdivision, the Administrative Rules Review Committee, an agency, or an association having 25 or more members.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee’s meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rule-making actions are proposed:

ITEM 1. Amend rule 481—30.1(10A,137C,137D,137F) as follows:

481—30.1(10A,137C,137D,137F) Food and consumer safety bureau. The food and consumer safety bureau inspects food establishments and food processing plants including food storage facilities (warehouses), home bakeries, food and beverage vending machines, and hotels and motels. The food and consumer safety bureau is also responsible for social and charitable gambling and amusement devices. Separate chapters have been established for the administration of social and charitable gambling (481—Chapters 100 to 103, 106, and 107) and amusement devices (481—Chapters 104 and 105).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 10A.104 and 22.11 and Iowa Code chapters 137C, 137D and 137F.

ITEM 2. Amend rule 481—30.2(10A,137C,137D,137F) as follows:

481—30.2(10A,137C,137D,137F) Definitions. If both the 2017 Food and Drug Administration Food Code with Supplement and rule 481—30.2(10A,137C,137D,137F) define a term, the definition in rule 481—30.2(10A,137C,137D,137F) shall apply.

“Baked goods” means breads, cakes, doughnuts, pastries, buns, rolls, cookies, biscuits and pies (except meat pies).

“Bed and breakfast home” means a private residence which provides lodging and meals for guests, in which the host or hostess resides, and in which no more than four guest families are lodged at the same time. The facility may advertise as a bed and breakfast home but not as a hotel, motel or restaurant. The facility is exempt from licensing and inspection as a hotel or as a food establishment. A bed and breakfast home may serve food only to overnight guests, unless a food establishment license is secured.

“Bed and breakfast inn” means a hotel which has nine or fewer guest rooms.

“Catering” means the preparation of food for distribution to an individual, business or organization for exclusive service to the individual’s, business’s or organization’s nonpaying guests, employees or members.

“Certified wild-harvested mushroom identification expert” means an individual who has within the last three years successfully completed a wild-harvested mushroom identification training program provided by an accredited college, university, or state mycological society. The training program must
include a component of actual identification of physical specimens or simulations of mushroom species. A document must be issued by an accredited college, accredited university, or state mycological society certifying the individual’s successful completion of the wild-harvested mushroom identification training program and specifying the species of wild mushrooms the individual is qualified to identify.

“Commissary” means a food establishment used for preparing, fabricating, packaging and storage of food or food products for distribution and sale through the food establishment’s own outlets.

“Contractor” means a municipal corporation, county or other political subdivision that contracts with the department to license and inspect under Iowa Code chapter $137C$, $137D$ or $137F$. A list of contractors is maintained on the department’s website.

“Cottage food” means the production and sale of food produced at a private residence other than a food or food products, poultry, or poultry products regulated under Iowa Code chapter $189A$.

“Criminal offense” means a public offense, as defined in Iowa Code section 701.2, that is prohibited by statute and is punishable by fine or imprisonment.

“Critical violation” means a foodborne illness risk factor and public health intervention and the violations defined as such by the Food Code adopted in rule 481—31.1(137F) and pursuant to Iowa Code section 137F.2.

“Cultivated mushroom” means a mushroom grown through a process in which the grower inoculates a substrate (logs, beds, straw, etc.) with a known strain or species of mushroom spawn in a dedicated space, whether outdoors or indoors, that is under the control of the grower, for the purpose of fruiting mushrooms.

“Department” means the department of inspections and appeals.

“Event” means a significant occurrence or happening sponsored by a civic, business, governmental, community, or veterans organization and may include an athletic contest. For example, an event does not include a single store’s grand opening or sale.

“Farmers market” means a marketplace which operates seasonally, principally as a common market for Iowa-produced farm products on a retail basis for consumption elsewhere.

“Farmers market time/temperature control for safety food license” means a license for a temporary food establishment that sells time/temperature control for safety foods at farmers markets. A separate annual farmers market time/temperature control for safety food license is required for each county in which the licensee sells time/temperature control for safety foods at farmers markets. The license is only applicable at farmers markets and is not required in order to sell wholesome, fresh shell eggs to consumer customers. “Farmers market time/temperature control for safety food license” does not include a temporary food establishment that sells packaged time/temperature control for safety food items from a licensed source at farmers markets.

“Food establishment” means an operation that stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends or otherwise provides food for human consumption and includes a food service operation in a salvage or distressed food operation, nutrition program operated pursuant to Title III-C of the Older Americans Act, school, summer camp, residential service substance abuse treatment facility, halfway house substance abuse treatment facility, correctional facility operated by the department of corrections, or the state training school. Assisted living programs and adult day services are included in the definition of food establishment to the extent required by $481$—subrules $69.28(6)$ and $70.28(6)$. “Food establishment” does not include the following:

1. A food processing plant.
2. An establishment that offers only prepackaged foods that are not time/temperature control for safety foods.
3. A produce stand or facility which sells only whole, uncut fresh fruits and vegetables.
4. Premises which are a home bakery food processing establishment pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 137D.
5. Premises which operate as a farmers market if unpackaged time/temperature control for safety foods are not sold or distributed from the premises.
6. Premises of a residence in which food that is not a time/temperature control for safety food is sold for consumption off the premises to a consumer customer, if the food is labeled to identify the name and address of the person preparing the food and the common name of the food. This exception does not apply to resale goods. This exception applies only to sales made from the residence in person and does not include mail order or Internet sales is produced pursuant to Iowa Code section 137F.20 as enacted by 2022 Iowa Acts, House File 2431, section 10.
7. A kitchen in a private home where food is prepared or stored for family consumption or in a bed and breakfast home.
8. A private home or private party where a personal chef or hired cook is providing food preparation services to a client and the client’s nonpaying guests.
9. A private home that receives catered or home-delivered food.
10. Child day care facilities and other food establishments located in hospitals or health care facilities that serve only patients and staff and are subject to inspection by other state agencies or divisions of the department.
11. Supply vehicles or vending machine locations.
12. Establishments that are exclusively engaged in the processing of meat and poultry and are licensed pursuant to Iowa Code section 189A.3.
13. The following premises, provided they are exclusively engaged in the sale of alcoholic beverages in a prepackaged form:
   - Premises covered by a current Class “A” beer permit, including a Class “A” native beer permit as provided by a beer manufacturer, distributor, or wholesaler under Iowa Code chapter 123;
   - Premises covered by a current Class “A” wine permit, including a Class “A” native wine permit as provided by a wine manufacturer, distributor, or wholesaler under Iowa Code chapter 123; and
   - Premises of a manufacturer of distilled spirits under Iowa Code chapter 123.
14. Premises or operations that are exclusively engaged in the processing of milk and milk products, are regulated by Iowa Code section sections 192.107 and 194.1, and have a milk or milk products permit issued by the department of agriculture and land stewardship.
15. Premises or operations that are exclusively engaged in the production of shell eggs, are regulated by Iowa Code section 196.3, and have an egg handler’s license.
16. The premises of a residence in which honey is stored; prepared; packaged, including by placement in a container; or labeled or from which honey is distributed.
17. Premises regularly used by a nonprofit organization which engages in the serving of food on the premises as long as the nonprofit organization does not exceed the following restrictions:
   - The nonprofit organization serves food no more than one day per calendar week and not on two or more consecutive days;
   - Twice per year, the nonprofit organization may serve food to the public for up to three consecutive days; and
   - The nonprofit organization may use the premises of another nonprofit organization not more than twice per year for one day to serve food.
18. A stand operated by a minor.

“Food processing plant” means a commercial operation that manufactures, packages, labels or stores food for human consumption and does not provide food directly to a consumer. “Food processing plant” does not include any of the following:
1. The following premises, provided they are exclusively engaged in the sale of alcoholic beverages in a prepackaged form:
● Premises covered by a current Class “A” beer permit, including a Class “A” native beer permit as provided in sections of a beer manufacturer, distributor, or wholesaler under Iowa Code chapter 123;

● Premises covered by a current Class “A” wine permit, including a Class “A” native wine permit as provided in sections of a beer manufacturer, distributor, or wholesaler under Iowa Code chapter 123; and

● Premises of a manufacturer of distilled spirits under Iowa Code chapter 123.

2. The premises of a residence in which honey is stored; prepared; packaged, including by placement in a container; or labeled or from which honey is distributed.

3. Premises or operations that are exclusively engaged in the processing of meat and poultry and are licensed pursuant to Iowa Code section 189A.3.

4. Premises or operations that are exclusively engaged in the processing of milk or milk products, are regulated by Iowa Code sections 192.107 and 194.1, and have a milk or milk products permit issued by the department of agriculture and land stewardship.

5. Premises or operations that are exclusively engaged in the production of shell eggs, are regulated by Iowa Code section 196.3, and have an egg handler’s license.

6. Premises or operations that are exclusively engaged in the preparation or processing of Siluriformes, including catfish, and are regulated and inspected by the United States Department of Agriculture under a federal grant of inspection.

7. Premises that are a home food processing establishment pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 137D.

“Food service establishment” means a food establishment where food is prepared or served for individual portion service intended for consumption on the premises or is subject to Iowa sales tax as provided in Iowa Code section 423.3.

“A home bakery” means a business on the premises of a residence that is operating as a home-based bakery or where baked goods are prepared for consumption elsewhere. Annual gross sales of these products cannot exceed $35,000. “Home bakery” does not include:

1. A food establishment;

2. A food processing plant;

3. A residence where food is prepared to be used or sold by churches, fraternal societies, or charitable, civic or nonprofit organizations;

4. A residence that prepares or distributes honey;

5. A residence that distributes shell eggs;

6. A residence that prepares foods that are not subject to time/temperature control for safety foods for sale at a farmers market, or

7. A residence that prepares baked goods that are not subject to time/temperature control for safety foods sold directly from the residence. This exception does not apply to resale goods. This exception applies only to sales made from the residence in person and does not include mail order or Internet sales.

“Hotel” means any building equipped, used or advertised to the public as a place where sleeping accommodations are rented to temporary or transient guests.

“License holder” means an individual, corporation, partnership, governmental unit, association or any other entity to whom a license was issued under Iowa Code chapter 137C, 137D or 137F.

“Mobile food unit” means a food establishment that is self-contained, with the exception of grills and smokers, and readily movable, which either operates up to three consecutive days at one location or returns to a home base of operation at the end of each day.

“Patrol dog” means a dog that is accompanying a law enforcement officer or security officer.

“Personal chef” or “hired cook” means a person who provides food preparation services in a private home or at a private party for a client and the client’s nonpaying guests. “Personal chef” or “hired cook” does not include a person who provides the ingredients intended to be used in food preparation.

“Pet dog” means a dog that does not meet the definition of a “patrol dog” or a “service animal” as defined in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 28, Part 36.

“Pushcart” means a non-self-propelled vehicle food establishment limited to serving foods that are not subject to time/temperature control for safety foods or commissary-wrapped foods maintained at proper temperatures or precooked foods that require limited assembly, such as frankfurters.
“Retail food establishment” means a food establishment that sells to consumer customers food or food products intended for preparation or consumption off the premises.

“Revoke” means to void or annul by recalling or withdrawing a license issued under Iowa Code chapter 137C, 137D or 137F. The entire application process, including the payment of applicable license fees, must be repeated to regain a valid license following a revocation.

“Stand operated by a minor” means a stand or other facility operated by a person or persons under the age of 18 at which food is sold directly to consumers that is not time/temperature control for safety food or an alcoholic beverage and that operates on a temporary and occasional basis on private property with the permission of the owner of the property.

“Suspend” means to render a license issued under Iowa Code chapter 137C, 137D, or 137F invalid for a period of time, with the intent of resuming the validity of a license at the end of that period.

“Temporary food establishment” means a food establishment that operates for a period of no more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event.

“Time/temperature control for safety food” means a food that requires time and temperature controls for safety to limit pathogenic microorganism growth or toxin formation.

“Transient guest” means an overnight lodging guest who does not intend to stay for any permanent length of time. Any guest who rents a room for more than 31 consecutive days is not classified as a transient guest.

“Unattended food establishment” means an operation that provides packaged foods or whole fruit using an automated payment system and has controlled entry not accessible by the general public.

“Controlled entry,” for the purposes of the definition of “unattended food establishment,” means selective restriction or limitation of access to a place or location.

“Vending machine” means a self-service device which, upon insertion of a coin, paper currency, token, card or key, or by optional manual operation, dispenses unit servings of food in bulk or in packages without the necessity of replenishing the device between each vending operation. Vending machines that dispense only prepackaged foods that are not time/temperature control for safety foods, canned candies, gumballs or nuts are exempt from licensing but may be inspected by the department upon receipt of a written complaint. “Panned candies” are those with a fine, hard coating on the outside and a soft candy filling on the inside. Panned candies are easily dispensed by a gumball-type machine.

“Vending machine location” means the room, enclosure, space, or area where one or more vending machines are installed and operated, including the storage areas on the premises that are used to service and maintain the vending machine.

“Wild-harvested mushroom” means a fresh mushroom that has been found or foraged in the natural environment and has not been processed (e.g., dried or frozen). “Wild-harvested mushroom” does not include cultivated mushrooms or mushrooms that have been packaged in an approved food processing plant.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 10A.104, and 137C.8, and 137D.2 and chapter 137F.

ITEM 3. Amend rule 481—30.3(137C,137D,137F), introductory paragraph, as follows:

481—30.3(137C,137D,137F) Licensing and postings. A license to operate any food establishment or food processing plant defined in rule 481—30.2(10A,137C,137D,137F) must be granted by the department of inspections and appeals. Application for a license is made on a form furnished by the department which contains the names of the business, owner, and manager; locations of buildings; and other data relative to the license requested. Applications are available from the Department of Inspections and Appeals, Food and Consumer Safety Bureau, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0083, or from contractors. An application for licensure shall be submitted 30 days in advance of the opening of the food establishment or food processing plant. Temporary food establishment license applications shall be submitted a minimum of 3 business days prior to opening.
ITEM 4. Amend subrule 30.3(5), introductory paragraph, as follows:

30.3(5) Documentation of gross sales. The regulatory authority shall require from a license holder documentation of the annual gross sales of food and drink sold by a licensed food establishment or a licensed food processing plant unless the establishment is paying the highest license fee required by rule 481—30.4(137C,137D,137F). The documentation submitted by the license holder will be kept confidential and will be used to verify that the license holder is paying the appropriate license fee based on annual gross sales of food and drink. For food processing plants that are food storage facilities and food establishments whose sales are included in a single rate with lodging or other services, the value of the food handled should be used. Documentation shall include at least one of the following:

ITEM 5. Amend rule 481—30.3(137C,137D,137F), implementation sentence, as follows:

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 10A.104, and 137C.8, and 137D.2 and chapter 137F.

ITEM 6. Amend rule 481—30.4(137C,137D,137F) as follows:

481—30.4(137C,137D,137F) License fees. The license fee is the same for an initial license and a renewal license. License applications are available from the Department of Inspections and Appeals, Food and Consumer Safety Bureau, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0083, or from a contractor. License fees are set by the Iowa Code sections listed below and are charged as follows:

30.4(1) No change.

30.4(2) Food service establishments. License fees for food service establishments are based on annual gross sales of food and drink for individual portion service intended for consumption on the premises (Iowa Code section 137F.6 as amended by 2018 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2390) or subject to Iowa sales tax as provided in Iowa Code section 423.3 as follows:

a. to c. No change.

30.4(3) Vending machines. License fees for food and beverage vending machines are $50 for the first machine and $10 for each additional machine (Iowa Code section 137F.6 as amended by 2018 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2390).

30.4(4) Home bakery. The license fee for a home bakery is $50 (Iowa Code section 137D.2(1) as amended by 2018 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2390).

30.4(5) Hotels. License fees for hotels are based on the number of rooms provided to transient guests (Iowa Code section 137C.9) as follows:

a. to c. No change.

30.4(6) Mobile food units or pushcarts. The license fee for a mobile food unit or a pushcart is $250 (Iowa Code section 137F.6 as amended by 2018 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2390).

30.4(7) Temporary food establishments.

a. The fee for a temporary food establishment license issued for up to 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event is $50 (Iowa Code section 137F.6 as amended by 2018 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2390).

b. The annual fee for a temporary food establishment license issued for multiple nonconcurrent events on a countywide basis during a calendar year is $200 (Iowa Code section 137F.6 as amended by 2018 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2390). Temporary food establishments that operate simultaneously at more than one location within a county are required to have a separate license for each location.

30.4(8) Food processing plants including food storage facilities (warehouses). For food processing plants, the annual license fee is based on the annual gross sales of food and food products handled at that plant or food storage facility (warehouse) (Iowa Code section 137F.6 as amended by 2018 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2390) as follows:

a. to c. No change.

30.4(9) Farmers market. A person selling time/temperature control for safety food at a farmers market must pay an annual license fee of $150 for each county of operation. Persons who operate simultaneously at more than one location within a county are required to have a separate license for each location.
30.4(10) 30.4(9) Certificate of free sale or sanitation. The fee for a certificate of free sale or sanitation is $35 for the first certificate and $10 for each additional identical certificate requested at the same time.

30.4(11) 30.4(10) Unattended food establishment. The annual license fee for an unattended food establishment is based on the annual gross food and beverage sales (Iowa Code section 137F.6 as amended by 2018 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2390) as follows:

a. and b. No change.

30.4(12) 30.4(11) Events. The license fee for an event is $50, which shall be submitted with a license application to the appropriate regulatory authority at least 60 days in advance of the event. An “event” for purposes of this subrule does not include a function with ten or fewer temporary food establishments, a fair as defined in Iowa Code section 174.1, or a farmers market.

30.4(13) 30.4(12) Voluntary inspection fee. The department shall charge a voluntary inspection fee of $100 when a premises that is not a food establishment requests a voluntary inspection.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 137C.9—137D.2(1), and 137F.6 and 2018 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2390.

ITEM 7. Amend subrule 30.5(3) as follows:

30.5(3) Civil penalty for violations. A person who violates Iowa Code chapter 137F or these rules shall be subject to a civil penalty of $100 for each violation. Prior to assessment of the penalty, the license holder shall have an opportunity for a hearing using the process outlined in rule 481—30.11(10A,137C,137D,137F).

ITEM 8. Amend rule 481—30.6(137C,137D,137F) as follows:

481—30.6(137C,137D,137F) Returned checks. If a check intended to pay for any license provided for under Iowa Code chapter 137C—137D, or 137F is not honored for payment by the bank on which it is drafted, the department will attempt to redeem the check. The department will notify the applicant of the need to provide sufficient payment. An additional fee of $25 shall be assessed for each dishonored check. If the department does not receive cash to replace the check, the establishment will be operating without a valid license. Furthermore, any late penalties assessed pursuant to rule 481—30.5(137F) will accrue and must be paid.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 137C.9—137D.2(1), and 137F.6.

ITEM 9. Amend rule 481—30.8(137C,137D,137F) as follows:

481—30.8(137C,137D,137F) Inspection frequency.

30.8(1) Food establishments. Food establishments shall be inspected based upon risk assessment and shall have routine inspections at least once every 36 months. Very low risk food establishments will not have a routine inspection frequency.

30.8(2) to 30.8(4) No change.

30.8(5) Home bakeries and vending machines. Home bakeries and vending machines shall have a pre-opening inspection and then shall not have a specific inspection frequency. An inspection may be triggered, for example, by complaints, potential foodborne illness, or information about potential violations of law or rules.

30.8(6) 30.8(5) Farmers market time/temperature control for safety food. Farmers market time/temperature control for safety food licensees shall be inspected at least once annually.

30.8(7) 30.8(6) Temporary food establishments. Temporary food establishments issued an annual license pursuant to paragraph 30.4(2)”b” 30.4(6)”b” shall be inspected at least once annually.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 137C.11—137D.2, and 137F.10.

ITEM 10. Amend rule 481—30.9(22), implementation sentence, as follows:

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 137C, 137D, 137F and 22.
ITEM 11. Amend rule 481—30.10(17A,137C,137D,137F), parenthetical implementation statute, as follows:

481—30.10(17A,137C,137D,137F) Denial, suspension, or revocation of a license to operate.

ITEM 12. Amend subrule 30.10(1) as follows:

30.10(1) Immediate suspension of license. To the extent not inconsistent with Iowa Code chapters 17A, 137C, 137D, and 137F and rules adopted pursuant to those chapters, chapter 8 of the Food Code shall be adopted for food establishments and home bakeries. The department or contractor may immediately suspend a license in cases of an imminent health hazard. The procedures of Iowa Code section 17A.18A and Food Code chapter 8 shall be followed in cases of an imminent health hazard. The appeal process in rule 481—30.11(10A,137C,137D,137F) is available following an immediate suspension. The department may immediately suspend the license of a food processing plant or hotel if an imminent health hazard finding is made and the procedures of Iowa Code section 17A.18A are followed.

ITEM 13. Amend paragraph 30.10(2)“d” as follows:

d. The department’s decision to revoke or suspend a license may be contested by the adversely affected party pursuant to the provisions of rule 481—30.11(10A,137C,137D,137F).

ITEM 14. Amend rule 481—30.10(17A,137C,137D,137F), implementation sentence, as follows: This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 17A, 137C, 137D and 137F.

ITEM 15. Amend rule 481—30.11(10A,137C,137D,137F), parenthetical implementation statute, as follows:

481—30.11(10A,137C,137D,137F) Formal hearing.

ITEM 16. Amend rule 481—30.11(10A,137C,137D,137F), implementation sentence, as follows: This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 10A.104 and Iowa Code chapters 137C, 137D, and 137F.

ITEM 17. Adopt the following new rule 481—30.13(10A,137F):

481—30.13(10A,137F) Cottage food.

30.13(1) Cottage food is exempt from all licensing, permitting, inspection, packaging, and labeling laws of the state if the food complies with all of the following:

a. The food does not require time/temperature control for safety. When it is not obvious whether a food requires time/temperature control for safety, the food producer must provide documentation that a food does not require time/temperature control for safety to the regulatory authority upon request.

b. The food is not a milk or milk product regulated under Iowa Code chapters 192 and 194.

c. The food is not a meat, meat food product, poultry, or poultry food product regulated under Iowa Code chapter 189A.

d. The food is not unpasteurized fruit or vegetable juice.

e. The food is produced in a private residence.

f. The food is sold and delivered by the producer directly to the consumer.

g. The cottage food is labeled or affixed with the following information:

(1) Information to identify the name and address, phone number, or electronic mail address of the person preparing the food.

(2) The common name of the food.

(3) The ingredients of the cottage food in descending order of predominance.

(4) The following statement: “This product was produced at a residential property that is exempt from state licensing and inspection.”

(5) If the cottage food contains one or more major food allergens, an additional allergen statement identifying each major allergen contained in the food by the common name of the allergen.
(6) If the food is home-processed and contains home-canned pickles, vegetables, or fruits permitted under this rule, the date that the food was processed and canned.

h. Home-processed and home-canned pickles, vegetables, or fruits sold under this rule must comply with the following:

   (1) Each batch must be measured by a pH meter or a water activity meter and shall have a finished equilibrium pH value of 4.60 or lower or a water activity value of 0.85 or less.
   (2) Each container that is sold or offered for sale must contain the date the food was processed and canned.

   i. The cottage food producer must provide batch testing records to the regulatory authority upon request, including at the point of sale.

   j. Cottage food shall not be offered for sale in a food establishment except in a temporary food establishment, provided that the temporary food establishment is operated by the cottage food producer and the cottage food is offered for sale in a packaged form and labeled in accordance with subrule 30.13(7).

   30.13(2) Compliance with the cottage food exemption provided in this rule does not represent compliance with federal law.

   This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 137F as amended by 2022 Iowa Acts, House File 2431.


   ITEM 19. Adopt the following new subrule 31.1(4):

   31.1(4) Homemade food items prepared in a licensed home food processing establishment. Section 3-201.11 is amended to allow homemade food items that are eligible for resale and are prepared, packaged, and labeled pursuant to 481—Chapter 34 to be offered for human consumption in a food establishment.

   ITEM 20. Amend renumbered subrule 31.1(16) as follows:

   31.1(16) Nonprofit exception for temporary events. Nonprofit organizations that are licensed as temporary food establishments may serve non-time/temperature control for safety food from an unapproved source for the duration of the event. This does not include home-canned pickles, vegetables, or fruits produced in accordance with Iowa Code section 137F.20 as enacted by 2022 Iowa Acts, House File 2431, section 10.

   ITEM 21. Amend subrule 31.2(3) as follows:

   31.2(3) Stop sale. Any article of food that is adulterated or misbranded when introduced into commerce may be embargoed until such a time as the adulteration or misbranding is remedied or the product is destroyed. The action is immediate, but the licensee may appeal the decision following the process outlined in rule 481—30.11(10A,137C,137D,137F) and 481—34.14(137D).

   ITEM 22. Amend subrule 31.2(5) as follows:

   31.2(5) Adulterated food. See rule 481—31.3(137D,137F) and 481—34.5(137D).

   ITEM 23. Amend rule 481—31.3(137D,137F), parenthetical implementation statute, as follows:

481—31.3(137D,137F) Adulterated food and disposal.

   ITEM 24. Amend paragraph 31.5(2)“i” as follows:

   i. Approved food source. All food supplies shall come from a commercial manufacturer or an approved source. The use of food in hermetically sealed containers that is not prepared in an approved food processing plant or home food processing establishment is prohibited. Transport vehicles used to supply food products are subject to inspection and shall protect food from physical, chemical, and microbial contamination. Cottage foods may be offered for sale in a temporary food establishment if the temporary food establishment is operated by the cottage food producer and the cottage food is offered for sale in a packaged form and labeled pursuant to 481—paragraph 30.13(1)“g.”