

1-1 By: Deuell S.B. No. 552
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 8, 2007; February 26, 2007,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Human
1-4 Services; March 12, 2007, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; March 12, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the accreditation of basic food safety education and
1-9 training programs for food handlers.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 438.041, Health and Safety Code, is
1-12 amended to read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 438.041. DEFINITION. In this subchapter:

1-14 (1) "Department" [~~,"department"~~] means the [~~Texas~~]
1-15 Department of State Health Services.

1-16 (2) "Food handler" means a food service employee who
1-17 works with unpackaged food, food equipment or utensils, or
1-18 food-contact surfaces.

1-19 SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 438, Health and Safety
1-20 Code, is amended by adding Section 438.0431 to read as follows:

1-21 Sec. 438.0431. BASIC FOOD SAFETY ACCREDITATION.

1-22 (a) Notwithstanding Section 438.043, the department may accredit
1-23 an education or training program for basic food safety for food
1-24 handlers as provided by this section.

1-25 (b) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human
1-26 Services Commission shall by rule define the basic food safety
1-27 training or education required to be included in a course
1-28 curriculum. The course length may not exceed two hours.

1-29 (c) A training or education program accredited under this
1-30 section may require a participant to achieve a passing score on an
1-31 examination to successfully complete the course for certification.

1-32 (d) A program accredited under this section may be delivered
1-33 through the Internet.

1-34 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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