

**§ 1031. Congressional statement of findings**

Eggs and egg products are an important source of the Nation's total supply of food, and are used in food in various forms. They are consumed throughout the Nation and the major portion thereof moves in interstate or foreign commerce. It is essential, in the public interest, that the health and welfare of consumers be protected by the adoption of measures prescribed herein for assuring that eggs and egg products distributed to them and used in products consumed by them are wholesome, otherwise not adulterated, and properly labeled and packaged. Lack of effective regulation for the handling or disposition of unwholesome, otherwise adulterated, or improperly labeled or packaged egg products and certain qualities of eggs is injurious to the public welfare and destroys markets for wholesome, not adulterated, and properly labeled and packaged eggs and egg products and results in sundry losses to producers and processors, as well as injury to consumers. Unwholesome, otherwise adulterated, or improperly labeled or packaged products can be sold at lower prices and compete unfairly with the wholesome, not adulterated, and properly labeled and packaged products, to the detriment of consumers and the public generally. It is hereby found that all egg products and the qualities of eggs which are regulated under this chapter are either in interstate or foreign commerce, or substantially affect such commerce, and that regulation by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and cooperation by the States and other jurisdictions, as contemplated by this chapter, are appropriate to prevent and eliminate burdens upon such commerce, to effectively regulate such commerce, and to protect the health and welfare of consumers.

(Pub. L. 91-597, §2, Dec. 29, 1970, 84 Stat. 1620; Pub. L. 96-88, title V, §509(b), Oct. 17, 1979, 93 Stat. 695.)

**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original "this Act", meaning Pub. L. 91-597, Dec. 29, 1970, 84 Stat. 1620, as amended, which enacted this chapter, amended sections 633 and 636 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade, and enacted provisions set out as notes under this section. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out below and Tables.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

"Secretary of Health and Human Services" substituted for "Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare" in text pursuant to section 509(b) of Pub. L. 96-88, which is classified to section 3508(b) of Title 20, Education.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Section 29 of Pub. L. 91-597 provided that: "The provisions of this Act [enacting this chapter, amending sections 633 and 636 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade, and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section] with respect to egg products shall take effect six months after enactment [Dec. 29, 1970]. Otherwise, this Act shall take effect eighteen months after enactment."

**SHORT TITLE**

Section 1 of Pub. L. 91-597 provided: "That this Act [enacting this chapter, amending sections 633 and 636 of

Title 15, Commerce and Trade, and enacting provisions set as notes under this section] may be cited as the 'Egg Products Inspection Act'."

**MAINTENANCE OF EGGS AT PROPER TEMPERATURE**

Pub. L. 102-237, title X, §1012(a), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1899, provided that:

"(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

"(A) food borne illness is a serious health problem;

"(B) its incidence can be reduced through proper handling of food; and

"(C) eggs are perishable and therefore are particularly susceptible to supporting microbial growth if proper temperature controls are not maintained.

"(2) PURPOSES.—It is the purpose of this section [amending sections 1034, 1037, 1041, 1042, 1046, and 1052 of this title and enacting provisions set out as a note under section 1034 of this title] to prescribe the temperature at which eggs are maintained in order to reduce the potential for harmful microbial growth to protect the health and welfare of consumers."

**§ 1032. Congressional declaration of policy**

It is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress to provide for the inspection of certain egg products, restrictions upon the disposition of certain qualities of eggs, and uniformity of standards for eggs, and otherwise regulate the processing and distribution of eggs and egg products as hereinafter prescribed to prevent the movement or sale for human food, of eggs and egg products which are adulterated or misbranded or otherwise in violation of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 91-597, §3, Dec. 29, 1970, 84 Stat. 1621.)

**§ 1033. Definitions**

For purposes of this chapter—

(a) The term "adulterated" applies to any egg or egg product under one or more of the following circumstances—

(1) if it bears or contains any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health; but in case the substance is not an added substance, such article shall not be considered adulterated under this clause if the quantity of such substance in or on such article does not ordinarily render it injurious to health;

(2)(A) if it bears or contains any added poisonous or added deleterious substance (other than one which is (i) a pesticide chemical in or on a raw agricultural commodity; (ii) a food additive; or (iii) a color additive) which may, in the judgment of the Secretary, make such article unfit for human food;

(B) if it is, in whole or in part, a raw agricultural commodity and such commodity bears or contains a pesticide chemical which is unsafe within the meaning of section 346a of this title;

(C) if it bears or contains any food additive which is unsafe within the meaning of section 348 of this title;

(D) if it bears or contains any color additive which is unsafe within the meaning of section 379e of this title: *Provided*, That an article which is not otherwise deemed adulterated under clause (B), (C), or (D) shall nevertheless be deemed adulterated if use of the pesticide chemical, food additive, or color additive, in or on such article, is prohibited by regulations of the Secretary in official plants;