PA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF FOOD SAFETY & LABORATORY SERVICES

LABELING REQUIREMENTS OF FOOD PRODUCTS AT RETAIL FOOD FACILITIES

FULL LABELING REQUIREMENTS:
1. COMMON NAME.
2. INGREDIENTS/SUB-INGREDIENTS. (DESCENDING ORDER BY WEIGHT)
3. MAJOR FOOD ALLERGENS OR REQUIRED WARNINGS.
4. NET QUANTITY / WEIGHT.
5. MANUFACTURER /“DISTRIBUTED BY” STATEMENT.
6. NUTRITION LABELING – IF NOT EXEMPT.
7. EXEMPTIONS EXIST FOR SMALL PACKAGES WITH LESS THAN 12 sq.in. OF THE TOTAL SURFACE AREA AVAILABLE FOR LABELING. (e.g. CHEWING GUM)
8. BULK PACKAGED FOOD PRODUCTS NOT INTENDED FOR DIRECT CONSUMER SALE MAY HAVE LABELING ON MASTER CONTAINERS OR ON OTHER DOCUMENTATION SUCH AS INVOICES.

PDA EXCEPTION
PACKAGED PRODUCT WILL NOT NEED FULLY LABELED IF ALL THE FOLLOWING APPLY:
1. ITEM IS MADE OR ASSEMBLED IN THE RETAIL FOOD FACILITY.
2. THE ITEM IS SINGLE SERVING AND PACKAGED.
3. ITEM IS MARKED WITH THE DATE OF PREPARATION.
4. ITEM IS SOLD WITHIN 24 HOURS OR DISCARDED.
5. SERVICE CASE HAS A PALACARD, POSTER, CARD, BOOK OR SIMILAR, DISPLAYED WITH OR NEAR THE FOOD ITEM, AND WHICH INCLUDES THE COMMON NAME, ALL INGREDIENTS AND SUB-INGREDIENTS, AND MAJOR ALLERGENS.
6. THE PACKAGING IN GENERAL CONTAINS A LABEL WITH THE COMMON NAME, GENERAL (COMMON) INGREDIENTS, NAME AND ADDRESS OF MANUFACTURER, NET QUANTITY, AND MAJOR ALLERGENS.

DEFINITION:
PACKAGED MEANS:
BOTTLED, CANNED, CARTONED, BAGGED, OR WRAPPED, WHETHER PACKAGED IN A FOOD PROCESSING FACILITY OR A RETAIL FOOD FACILITY (RFF).

PACKAGED DOES NOT INCLUDE:
WRAPPED OR PLACED IN A CARRY-OUT CONTAINER TO PROTECT THE FOOD DURING SERVICE /DELIVERY TO A CONSUMER, BY A FOOD EMPLOYEE, UPON A CONSUMER REQUEST.

04.2016