

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Maiers, Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW, Washington, DC 20447, Telephone: 202-401-5438.

Dated: June 20, 2000.

Alvin C. Collins,

Director, Office of Family Assistance.

[FR Doc. 00-16055 Filed 6-23-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Grant to Welfare Information Network

AGENCY: Office of Family Assistance, ACF, DHHS.

ACTION: Grant award announcement.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that an award is being made to the Welfare Information Network of Washington, DC in the amount of \$75,000 for information dissemination activities on welfare reform. After the appropriate reviews, it has been determined that this proposal qualifies as a sole source award. Over the past four years, the Welfare Information Network (WIN) has been one of the leading nonprofit organizations in disseminating information and materials on welfare reform. The WIN network is a very unique organization in the welfare reform community. It has created a database on the cutting edge of Welfare to Work promising strategies through a synthesis of the latest research, site visits, and surveys of practitioners and service providers. The WIN organization has been an extremely valuable partner with the Office of Family Assistance in several clearinghouse and networking activities. This partnership with the WIN Organization has proven to be invaluable to States and communities in obtaining the information, policy analysis, and technical assistance they need to develop and implement changes that have helped to reduce dependency and promote the well-being of children and families. The period of this funding will extend through May 31, 2001.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 99P-2630]

Food Labeling: Added Sugars; Availability of Citizen Petition

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing the availability for comment of a petition submitted by the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI). The petition requested that FDA establish a Daily Reference Value (DRV) for added sugars with a corresponding Daily Value, require the declaration of added sugars, and revise criteria pertaining to nutrient content claims and health claims.

DATES: Submit written comments on the petition by September 25, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. Electronic comments may be submitted via the Internet to: www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/oc/dockets/comments/commentdocket.cfm or via e-mail to: fdadockets@oc.fda.gov. All comments should be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document. The petition is available for review at the Dockets Management Branch (address above) or electronically on the agency's web site at <http://www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets/dockets.htm>. You may also request a copy of the petition from the Dockets Management Branch.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathleen Smith, Office of Nutritional Products, Labeling, and Dietary Supplements, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS-832), Food and Drug Administration, 200 C St. SW., Washington, DC 20204, 202-205-5372.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. The Citizen Petition

CSPI, in a citizen petition filed on August 4, 1999, requested that the agency establish a DRV of 40 grams for added sugars and require the declaration of added sugars in nutrition

labeling in both grams per serving and a corresponding percent Daily Value. CSPI also requested that FDA define nutrient content claims for added sugars. Finally, CSPI requested that, when nutrient content or health claims are made about a food, meal product, or main dish product, FDA set, in addition to the limits on other nutrients described in the current regulations, limits and require disclosure of the total amount of added sugars for these claims.

CSPI's ground for its petition is that the labeling provision for added sugars is necessary as a public health measure to give consumers the tools they need to reduce their intake of added sugars. CSPI states in the petition that based on U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) data, the per capita consumption of added sugars has risen 28 percent since 1983, and that, in some people, diets with large amounts of added sugars contribute to obesity, the prevalence of which has risen dramatically in the last two decades in both youths and adults. CSPI also asserts that diets with added sugars, from such foods as soft drinks, fruit drinks, candy, cakes, and cookies, include fewer healthier foods that provide nutrients that reduce the risk of osteoporosis, cancer, heart disease, stroke, and other health problems. In addition, CSPI states that frequent consumption of foods with added sugars promotes tooth decay.

CSPI asserts that it is impossible for consumers to determine how much sugar has been added to foods such as yogurt, ice cream, fruit snacks, and juice drinks using current labels. In addition, CSPI states that current labels fail to inform consumers about the proportion of a reasonable day's intake of added sugars that a serving of food provides. CSPI maintains that, although USDA provided quantitative dietary recommendations for added sugars in The Food Guide Pyramid, without labeling of added sugars, it is difficult for consumers to follow such recommendations. USDA's quantitative recommendation serves as the basis for CSPI's request for a DRV of 40 grams for added sugars.

II. FDA Background

FDA addressed comments on added sugars in the January 6, 1993, final rule entitled "Food Labeling: Mandatory Status of Nutrition Labeling and Nutrient Content Revision, Format for Nutrition Label" (58 FR 2079). Comments had recommended mandatory declaration of added sugars only, rather than total sugars, in nutrition labeling and either mandatory or voluntary declaration of both added

and naturally occurring sugars (58 FR 2079 at 2098). FDA listed three reasons for deciding against implementing these recommendations: (1) The body does not make any physiological distinction between added and naturally occurring sugars in foods; (2) for most foods there is no analytical method to differentiate between added and naturally occurring sugars; and (3) the declaration of only added sugars could significantly underrepresent the sugars content of many foods that have a large quantity of naturally occurring sugars. Instead, the final rules required that total sugars be a mandatory component of nutrition labeling (21 CFR 101.9(c)(6)(ii)) (58 FR 2079 at 2176).

In the January 6, 1993, final rule entitled "Food Labeling; Reference Daily Intakes and Daily Reference Values" (58 FR 2206), FDA concluded that there was not sufficient basis to establish a DRV for added sugars because there was no conclusive evidence that demonstrated that sugars intake from any source was associated with chronic disease conditions. Additionally, the agency noted the absence of analytical capabilities to distinguish between added sugars and naturally-occurring sugars and the lack of consensus concerning the specific proportion of total carbohydrate that should be attributed to total sugars and complex carbohydrate. In conclusion, FDA did not support the separate establishment of DRV's for added sugars, naturally-occurring sugars, and total sugars (58 FR 2206 at 2221 and 2222).

FDA's food labeling regulations do require that sugars that are used as ingredients in a food product (i.e., that are added) be declared in the ingredient list on the label or labeling of that food (21 CFR 101.4(a)(1)). The listing of the added sugars must be by the common or usual name of the particular sugar and be in descending order of predominance among the other ingredients in the food product.

III. Comments

You may submit written or electronic comments to the Dockets Management Branch (address above), on or before September 25, 2000. Electronic comments may be submitted via the Internet to: www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/oc/dockets/comments/commentdocket.cfm or via e-mail to: fdadockets@oc.fda.gov. Groups or organizations must submit two copies of any comments. Individuals may submit one copy of their comments. Identify your written comments by placing the docket number at the top of your comment(s). If you base your comments

on scientific evidence or data, please submit copies of the specific information along with your comments. Any comments submitted will be filed under the docket number identified in brackets in the heading of this document. The petition and received comments may be seen in the Dockets Management Branch between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Dated: June 16, 2000.

Margaret M. Dotzel,

Associate Commissioner for Policy.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 98N-0359]

Program Priorities in the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition; Request for Comments

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is requesting comments concerning the establishment of program priorities in the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) for fiscal year (FY) 2001. As part of its annual planning, budgeting, and resource allocation process, CFSAN is reviewing its programs to set priorities and establish work product expectations. This notice is being published to give the public an opportunity to provide input into the priority-setting process.

DATES: Written comments by August 25, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments concerning this document to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. Comments should be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald J. Carrington, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS-666), Food and Drug Administration, 200 C St., SW Washington, DC 20204, 202-260-5290, e-mail: DCarrington@cfsan.fda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On February 10, 2000, CFSAN released a document entitled "2000

CFSAN Program Priorities." The document, a copy of which is available on CFSAN's web page (www.cfsan.fda.gov), constitutes the Center's priority workplan for a 9-month period, from January 1, 2000, through September 30, 2000, the end of the fiscal year. Henceforth, to be consistent with the Federal budgetary cycle, the priority-setting process and development of annual workplans will be done on a fiscal year basis. The 2000 workplan is based on input we received from our stakeholders (see 64 FR 47845, September 1, 1999), as well as input generated internally. Throughout the priority-setting process, we focused on one central question: "Where do we do the most good for consumers?"

Approximately half of the 2000 workplan consists of activities implementing the President's Food Safety Initiative (FSI). This is consistent with the fact that currently, approximately half the Center's resources are devoted to FSI work (i.e., all activities related to pathogen reduction in food.) Outside of FSI, the workplan identifies five program areas and six cross-cutting areas that need emphasis. The five program areas are: (1) Premarket review of food ingredients; (2) nutrition, health claims, and labeling; (3) dietary supplements; (4) chemical and other contaminants; and (5) cosmetics.

The six cross cutting areas are: (1) Enhancing the science base, (2) international activities, (3) emerging areas such as food biotechnology, (4) enhancing regulatory processes, (5) focused economic-based regulations, and (6) management initiatives.

In keeping with last year's format, the workplan contains two lists of activities in most major sections of the document, i.e., the "A" list and the "B" list. Because we condensed this year's plan to three-fourths of the year (9 months), our goal will be to fully complete at least three-quarters of the "A" list activities. Activities on the "B" list are those we plan to make progress on, but may not complete before the end of the fiscal year. CFSAN has responsibility for many important ongoing activities that are not identified in the workplan. For example, the Center's base programs in data collection, research, and enforcement are important and are ongoing. Rather, the workplan addresses primarily those initiatives representing something new or different that we need to address in 2000. In addition, the workplan does not address the myriad of unanticipated issues which often require a substantial investment of CFSAN resources (e.g., response to outbreaks of foodborne illness).