

Agency Proposal for Legislation for the 2017 Legislative Session

AGENCY NAME: Department of Agriculture

CONTACT/TITLE: Cort Jensen, Chief Legal Counsel

PHONE: 444-5402

FAX: 444-5409

E-MAIL: cojensen@mt.gov

1. What is the problem or issue?

The FDA Rule "Standards for Growing, Harvesting, Packing, & Holding of Produce for Human Consumption" will require changes to the Montana Produce Act.

2. What do you want the legislation to do?

The legislation as proposed will generally revise food safety laws to conform to federal food safety modernization act requirements. The department would have the opportunity to provide education and technical assistance to producers and handlers about produce safety programs, encourage safe production of fresh fruits and vegetables, and later implement an inspection, compliance and enforcement program.

3. If possible, please list the MCA (Montana Code Annotated) sections that would need to be amended.

Not yet verified.

4. If the proposed change requires additional funding, what funding sources do you propose (e.g., an increase in or both)?

The department may receive federal funding in order to meet requirements of the food safety modernization act.

5. Has similar legislation been requested in the past, been introduced in another state, or provided as a model act? If so, please provide a citation, reference, or point of contact.

No.