



# Louisville Metro Government

## Legislation Text

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File #: O-179-17, Version: 1

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### ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_, SERIES 2017

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 118 TO ADOPT A LOCAL FOOD PERMIT FOR FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS TO BE IMPLEMENTED AND ENFORCED BY THE LOUISVILLE METRO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLNESS.**

#### SPONSORED BY:

**WHEREAS**, Louisville Metro has become nationally recognized as a “foodie city” due to the great restaurants in our community;

**WHEREAS**, Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness (“Department of Public Health”) has first class health inspectors who enforce all state and local health laws to enable our restaurants meet applicable health and food safety standards;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Public Health was the first city in Kentucky to participate in the FDA’s National Retail Standards Program, which defines what constitutes a highly effective and responsive program for the regulation of foodservice and retail food establishments;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Public Health created and enforces the effective restaurant rating system that keeps the public informed on the results of its inspections of the restaurants in Jefferson County;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Public Health provides many other valuable services to the restaurants in Louisville, which include: pre-opening consults for new restaurants; in-service training for food service employees to encourage safe food handling practices and proper facility maintenance; non-operational inspections for new restaurants with an operational inspection

conducted approximately 30 days; 24-hour emergency response to facilities experiencing emergency situations such as a fire, flood damage, fire suppression discharge, etc.; and, employees who are on-call 24/7 that helps expedite the re-opening of restaurants.

**WHEREAS**, Louisville Metro Council is committed to supporting and funding the Department of Public Health in providing vital consumer protection through the regulation of health and safety of our food retail and restaurants.

**WHEREAS**, Louisville Metro Council, by this Ordinance, creates an Local Food permit that will require Louisville Metro restaurants to obtain the permit from the Department of Public Health to operate a restaurant in Jefferson County.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT (THE "COUNCIL") AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION I:** Section 118.01 of LMCO is hereby amended to read as follows:

**§ 118.01 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

**BOARD.** The Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Board of Health.

**CERTIFICATE.** A document issued by the Board certifying that a person has satisfactorily completed the Board's course of studies and has adopted and effectuated a qualifying examination.

**CERTIFICATION.** The process of classroom instruction and testing, developed and approved by the Board, by which a person may qualify for a food service manager certificate.

**COUNTY.** Jefferson County, Kentucky

**DIRECTOR.** Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness Director.

**FEE EXEMPT FACILITIES.** Private, parochial, and public school cafeterias or lunchroom facilities through the twelfth grade, charitable food kitchens, and all facilities operated by the Cabinet for

Health and Family Services or Department of Corrections shall be exempt from the payment of fees, but shall comply with all other provisions of KRS 217.005 to 217.215 and the state retail food establishment code. For this subsection, the term “charitable food kitchens” means a not-for-profit, benevolent food service establishment where more than one-half (1/2) of the employees are volunteers.

**FOOD EMPLOYEE.** Any employee who works in a food service facility.

**FOOD HANDLER.** Any food employee who handles, prepares, cooks, or processes any food item where it can reasonably be expected that hand contact may occur with a unwrapped or unpackaged food item.

**FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT.** Any ~~fixed~~ commercial establishment that engages in the preparation and serving of ready-to-eat foods in portions to the consumer, including, but not limited to: restaurants; coffee shops, cafeterias; short order cafes; luncheonettes; grills; tea rooms; sandwich shops; soda fountains; taverns; bars; cocktail lounges; night clubs; roadside stands; industrial feeding establishments; private, public or non-profit organizations or institutions routinely serving food; catering kitchens; commissaries; or similar places in which food is prepared for sale or service in the premises or elsewhere with or without charge. It does not include food in vending machines, establishments serving beverages only in single service or original containers or retail food markets which only cut, slice, and prepare cold-cut sandwiches for individual consumption.

**FOOD SERVICE MANAGER.** Any person who directs, conducts or supervises a food service establishment. That person’s duties may or may not include actual food preparation.

**OPEN FOR BUSINESS.** The period of time when food is being prepared or served on the premises, and includes those times when food is being prepared but not being served to the public.

**RETAIL FOOD MARKET.** Any fixed or mobile establishment where food or food products, including prepackaged, labeled sandwiches or other foods to be heated in a microwave or infrared oven at the

time of purchase, are offered for sale to the consumer, and intended for off-premises consumption, but does not include establishments which handle only prepackaged, snack-type, nonpotentially hazardous foods, markets that offer only fresh fruits and vegetables for sale, food service establishments, food and beverage vending machines, vending machine commissaries, or food processing establishments.

**SEASONAL CONCESSIONS.** Establishment where limited concessions are served to include hotdogs, nachos and cheese, and heat and serve items usually in conjunction with a swimming pool facility or ballpark.

**SECTION II:** Section 118.08 of LMCO is hereby created and reads as follows:

**§ 118.08 LOCAL FOOD PERMIT; POSTING.**

(1) All Food Service Establishments, Retail Food Markets, Seasonal Concessions, and combinations thereof located and operating in Jefferson County are required to annually obtain a Local Food permit.

(a) Permit requirements. Any party seeking to obtain the Local Food permit shall submit a written application to the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness upon a form provided by that agency. The applicant must be in full compliance with all applicable laws and regulations of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and Metro Louisville. Permits will renew annually on January 1 in conjunction with state food service permits.

(b) Violations and citations. Any violation of the provisions of this section or any order of the Director or a Code Official are subject to citation and classified as a civil offense and enforced through the Code Enforcement Board as provided in LMCO §§ 32.275 *et seq.* The civil penalty for failure to have a Local Food permit is contained in LMCO 118.99.

(c) Appeals. Any applicant whose Local Food permit application is denied may appeal such denial by filing a written appeal to the Director within seven (7) business days stating the specific

reasons the order of denial was arbitrary or otherwise not in accordance with this chapter. Within ten (10) business days of receipt of any written appeal, the Director shall issue a written order briefly stating the reasons why the appeal is either granted or denied. Any applicant whose appeal is denied by order of the Director may appeal such order to the Jefferson District Court within twenty (20) days of the order.

(2) The Local Food permit is to be posted in a conspicuous place visible to the health inspectors of the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness.

(3) The fee for an annual Local Food permit is Seasonal Concessions (603) = \$25, Retail Food Market (610) = \$50, Food Service Establishment (605) = \$100, and Combination Retail Food Market and Food Service Establishment (607) = \$100. Beginning January 1, 2018, upon review every two years, the Local Food permit fee may increase, based on the most recently-published Consumer Price Index (CPI). The increase may occur only when the amount equals or exceeds \$5, and will be made in increments of \$5. If costs to enforce the permit require rate increases above this level, the Director may request a higher increase upon approval by the Metro Council.

**SECTION III:** Section 118.99 of LMCO is hereby amended to read as follows:

**§ 118.99 PENALTY.**

(A) A violation of this chapter by any owner or operator of a food service establishment, or by any food handler, shall constitute a Class A misdemeanor for which the violator may be fined up to \$500 one hundred dollars (\$100) for each day the violation occurs. If any violation is continued for more than one day, each day upon which such violation occurs or is continued shall be considered and shall Each day constitutes a separate offense for which a separate fine may be imposed.

(B) The violation of any regulation promulgated by the Board pursuant to this chapter shall be punishable in accordance with the provisions of KRS 212.990(3) or any amended or successor

statute.

**SECTION IV:** The Ordinance shall take effect after its passage and approval for permits to be issued by the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness beginning in January 2018.

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H. Stephen Ott  
Metro Council Clerk

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David Yates  
President of the Council

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Greg Fischer  
Mayor

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Approval Date

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:**

Michael J. O'Connell  
Jefferson County Attorney

By: \_\_\_\_\_

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