

**Report to the NCWM Laws and Regulations Committee
NCWM Meat, Poultry, Fish and Seafood Task Group (MPFS TG)**

232-3 Section 1.12. Ready-to-Eat Food.

The Meat, Poultry, Fish, and Seafood Task Group (MPFS TG) was formed by the L&R Committee to review L&R Items 232-2, Section 1.5. Meat, Poultry, Fish and Seafood and Item 232-3, Section 1.12. Ready-to-Eat Food.

On January 5, 2016 the MPFS TG provided recommended language to the Committee for Item 232-2, Section 1.5. Meat, Poultry Fish and Seafood. After the 2016 NCWM Interim Meeting the task group proceeded to review Item 232-3, Section 1.12. Ready-to-Eat Food. This recommended language is a collaboration between industry and officials. Additional background information on both items can be found in Appendix A of the L&R report www.ncwm.net/meetings/annual/publication-16.

The Task Group would like the following language to proceed forward at the CWMA, NEWMA and NCWM Annual Meetings as the language for consideration for Item 232-3, Section 1.12. Ready-to-Eat Food.

1.12. Ready-to-Eat Food.

1.12.1. Definition - Ready-to-Eat Food. –Restaurant **style type** food offered or exposed for sale, whether in restaurants, supermarkets, or similar food service establishments, that is ready for **immediate human** consumption, though not necessarily on the premises where sold, **and which does not require any cooking or heating preparation by the customer.** Ready-to-Eat Food does not include sliced luncheon products, such as meat, poultry, or cheese when sold separately.

Some examples of Ready-to-Eat food items (The list is not intended to be all inclusive):

- **Servings of pastas, potato or coleslaw**
- **Servings of salads, vegetables, or grains such as rice**
- **Pizzas, whole or sliced**
- **Meat/vegetable pockets/pies**
- **Tacos, fajitas, enchiladas, tostadas**
- **Cooked, whole chickens or turkeys**
- **Buckets,-tubs, or individual pieces of cooked chicken or fish**
- **Cooked ribs by the slab or piece**
- **Stuffed clams, oysters, shrimp, and fish**
- **Cooked shrimp or crab cakes**
- **Slices of cake, pie, and quiche**
- **Donuts, bagels, and rolls for individual sale**
- **Cookies and brownies for individual sale**
- **Sandwiches, egg, and spring roll**
- **Servings of prepared chili or soup**

- **Stuffed peppers, tomatoes, and cabbage**
- **Knishes**
- **Pickles**

NOTE: The sale of an individual piece of fresh fruit (like an apple, banana, or orange) is allowed by count.

(Added 2004) (**Amended 20XX**)

1.12.2. Methods of Sale. –Ready-to-Eat Food sold from **retail cases displaying product in** bulk or in **single** servings packed **or prepared** on the premises may be sold by weight, measure, or count **(i.e., by piece, portion, or serving)** (~~count includes servings~~). **If pre-packaged, the product shall have the appropriate statement of quantity set forth in the current edition of NIST Handbook 130, Uniform Packaging and Labeling Regulation [UPLR].**

(Amended 1993 **and 20XX**)