

The Impact of the Government on Nutrition Programs and Services

OBJECTIVES/RATIONALE

Governmental agencies and policies play a role in the prevention of disease and maintenance of public health. The student will describe the impact of the government on nutrition programs and services

TEKS 121.24 1F

TAKS ELA 1, 2, 3, 4
Social Studies 3,4

KEY POINTS

- I. Focus of governmental policies
 - A. Adequate and proper nutrition
 - B. Disease prevention
 - C. Food safety
- II. Governmental Agencies/Programs
 - A. United States Food and Drug Administration – FDA
 - 1. Ensures wholesomeness and safety of food
 - 2. Regulates food labels
 - 3. Various statutes
 - a. Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act - The FD&C Act became law in 1938 and included requiring factory inspections, standards to identify for foods, an increase of controls on cosmetics and safe tolerances to be set for inevitably poisonous substances. Some of the most important requirements of the amended act include reauthorization of prescription drug user fees, enactment of FDA programs, information on off-label use of drugs and medical devices, and focus of resources on medical devices that present a risk to patients.
 - b. Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 - Amends the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetics Act to establish standards with respect to dietary supplements.
 - c. Fair Packaging and Labeling Act - Requires packages and their labels to enable consumers to obtain accurate information as to the quantity of the contents and facilitate value comparisons. This in turn will help consumers to be informed, which is essential to the fair and efficient functioning of a free market economy.
 - d. Federal Meat Inspections Act - Spells out meat inspection requirements so as to prevent misbranding and adulteration.

- e. Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 - Works to protect food from harmful pesticides.
 - f. Poultry Products Inspection Act - Sets out to effectively regulate interstate commerce in poultry and poultry products, ensuring that they are wholesome, not adulterated, and properly marked, labeled, and packaged so as to protect the health and welfare of consumers.
 - g. Sanitary Food Transportation Act - Prohibits certain food transportation practices and provides for regulation by the Secretary of Transportation that will safeguard food and certain other products from contamination during motor or rail transportation.
- B. United States Department of Agriculture – USDA
- 1. Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services – FNS
 - a. Food Stamp Program
 - b. Food Distribution Program
 - c. Child Nutrition Program
 - d. Women, Infants, and Children Program – WIC
 - e. Community Food Security
 - C. Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion (CNPP) – Responsible for the Food Guide Pyramid and Dietary Guidelines
 - D. Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)
 - 1. Meat and poultry recalls
 - 2. Consumer education and information
 - E. Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service – CSREES - Research, education, and extension
 - F. Economic Research Service – ERS - Food assistance and nutrition research
- III. Food Safety – A Team Approach
- A. Food and Drug Administration
- 1. Regulates
 - a. Interstate sales of domestic and imported food
 - b. Bottled water
 - c. Wine beverages with less than 7 percent alcohol
 - 2. Food Safety Role – enforces food safety laws governing domestic and imported food
 - a. Inspection of food production establishments and food warehouses
 - b. Reviews safety of food and color additives prior to marketing
 - c. Reviews drugs used in veterinary medicine for safety for animal and human consumption
 - d. Monitors animal feeds used in food production
 - e. Works with states to interpret rules for the regulation of milk, shellfish and retail food establishments.
 - f. Establishes standards for food manufacturing practices

- g. Ensure safety of imported food products
 - h. Recalls and monitors unsafe food products
 - i. Enforces rules and regulations
 - j. Researches food safety
 - k. Educates industry and consumers on safe food handling practices
- B. Centers for Disease Control and Preventions
- 1. Food Safety Role
 - a. Records and investigates outbreaks of food borne disease
 - b. Develops public health policies associated with food borne diseases
 - c. Research prevention of food borne illnesses
 - d. Trains local and state safety personnel
- C. U.S. Department of Agriculture – Food Safety and Inspection Service
- 1. Regulates
 - a. Domestic and imported meat and poultry and related products
 - b. Processed egg products
 - 2. Food Safety Role – Enforces food safety laws governing domestic and imported meat and poultry products.
 - a. Inspects food animals for diseases before and after slaughter
 - b. Inspection of slaughter and processing plants
 - c. Monitors and inspects processed egg products
 - d. Collects and analyzes samples of food products for contaminants
 - e. Ensures importing meat and poultry processing plants meet U.S. standards
 - f. Seeks voluntary recalls of unsafe products
 - g. Sponsors research on meat and poultry safety
 - h. Educates industry and consumers on safe food handling practices
- D. Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service - develops research and education programs on food safety for farmers and consumers
- E. National Agricultural Library – USDA/FDA Food borne Illness Education Information Center
- 1. Maintains a database of computer software, audiovisuals, posters, games, teacher’s guides and other educational materials on preventing food borne illness
 - 2. Helps educators, food service trainers and consumers locate educational materials on preventing food borne illness
- F. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- 1. Establishes and monitors safe drinking water standards
 - 2. Regulates toxic substances and wastes to prevent entry into the environment and food chain

3. Regulates and educates on the use of pesticides
 - G. U.S. Department of Commerce – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Inspects and certifies fish/seafood products and processing facilities
 - H. U.S. Department of the Treasury – Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms - Enforces laws governing production and distribution of alcoholic beverages
 - I. U.S. Customs Service – Enforces US import/export laws and regulations
 - J. U.S. Department of Justice
 1. Prosecutes companies and individuals suspected of violating food safety laws
 2. Through the U.S. Marshals Service, seizes unsafe food products not yet in the marketplace, as ordered by the courts
 - K. Federal Trade Commission - Enforces laws to protect consumers
 - L. State and Local Governments
 1. Work with FDA and other federal agencies to implement food safety standards for fish, seafood, milk, and other food produced within state borders
 2. Inspect restaurants, grocery stores, and other retail food establishments, as well as dairy farms and milk processing plants, grain mills, and food manufacturing plants within local jurisdictions
 3. Prevent the sale of unsafe food products made or distributed within state borders
- IV. Dietary Supplements
- A. The Commission on Dietary Supplement Labels recommends regulation of label claims and statements for dietary supplements and procedures for the evaluation of such claims.
 - B. The U.S. FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
 1. Publishes warnings, recalls, safety alerts
 2. Regulates labels
 - a. Prevents false claims
 - b. Requires disclaimers on labels
 3. Must notify the FDA within 30 days of marketing a dietary supplement
- V. Bio Terrorism
- A. New Bio Terrorism Legislation signed by George W. Bush on 6/12/03 into law is the Public Health Security and Bio terrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 (the Bio Terrorism Act)
 1. It provides for the Secretary of Health and Human Services to take action to protect the nation’s food supply against the threat of intentional contamination
 2. The FDA, as the food regulatory arm of the HHS, is responsible for developing and implementing food safety measures.
 3. New Regulations
 - a. Registration of Food Facilities

- b. Prior Notice of Imported Food
 - c. Establishment and Maintenance of Records
 - d. Ability to detain food that may pose a health threat
4. New Guidance
- a. Prevent certain persons from importing food
 - b. Marked foods are refused admission into the U.S.
 - c. Prevents marked foods from re-entering US at a different Port.

ACTIVITIES

- I. Research and report on the involvement of governmental agencies in recent food borne illness outbreaks.
- II. Research and report on recent activities for prevention of Bio terrorism and the food supply.
- III. Research and report on one of the branches of government and the impact it has on nutrition policy in the U.S.

MATERIALS /RESOURCES

<http://www.healthierus.gov>
<http://www.fda.gov>
<http://www.ars.usda.gov>
<http://www.aoa.gov>
<http://www.raps.org>
<http://www.nutrition.gov>
<http://www.fda.gov>
<http://www.usda.gov>
<http://www.eatright.org>
<http://www.cdc.gov/foodsafety>
<http://www.nutrition.gov>
<http://www.foodsafety.gov>
<http://www.cdc.gov/foodborneoutbreaks/>

ASSESSMENT

Oral presentation rubric

ACCOMMODATIONS

For reinforcement, the student will list governmental agencies and their contributions to the U.S. nutrition policy.

For enrichment, the student will interview personnel from the local Health and Human Services Office regarding actions taken to prevent food and water contamination by bioterrorists.

REFLECTIONS
