Hemp in Food Task Force
Meeting Notes
August 3, 2022
1:00 – 4:00pm

Note: This meeting was not recorded.

1:00 – 1:15 Welcome and Check-in
Small group conversations, responding to the question: "What's one thing top of mind professionally for you and one thing top of mind personally for you?"

1:15 – 2:15 Kelly McLain: WSDA Hemp Program (slide deck will be uploaded to a shared file location)
Kelly shared information regarding the Hemp Program at WSDA

- What is the Hemp Program?
- How WSDA got here
- Hemp in 2022
- Why are people growing hemp?
- How is hemp regulated by WSDA?
- What is the future of hemp?
- Specific WSDA concerns around hemp derivatives
- Questions needing answers:
    - Normal food ingredients are cleared by FDA. In the absence of that, what would the state choose to regulate right now?
        - All hemp ingredients?
        - Cannabinoids only?
        - Specific low, medium or high-risk final products or just derivatives?
    - What is included in this regulation?
        - Concentration (and who sets it)?
        - Food manufacturing processes (GMP)?
        - Labeling?
    - Who regulates? (WSDA, DOH, LHJ)

The presentation was followed by discussion among the Task Force members.

2:15 – 2:30 Bonny Jo Peterson: Overview of Hemp in Food Bill Draft
Bonny Jo provided the history of this draft legislation and walked the Task Force through the current language of the bill.

During the discussion, Kelly clarified that it's fine for the Task Force to work on the language of this bill, in a parallel *industry-driven* path with the path to the required report. The draft bill will be an appendix to the report.

2:30 – 2:45 Break

2:45 – 4:00 Defining Task Force Scope

The second half of the meeting was focused on defining the Task Force scope and focus. There were two breakout sessions responding to two questions Kelly posed during her presentation.

1st breakout session question:

Normal food ingredients are cleared by FDA. Absent FDA clearance, what would WA state choose to regulate right now?

- All hemp ingredients?
- Cannabinoids only?
- Specific low, medium or high-risk final products or just derivatives?

Group 1 report: Did not land on a specific recommendation. Dr. Stella offered his observations regarding safety, which he will expand during his presentation to the Task Force on August 17.

Group 2 report: Solidly landed on the need to regulate all the categories.

Group 3 report: Did not land on a specific recommendation, and added the following questions: Should regulations focus on animal or human consumption? Should regulations address product or process? They noted that there were different concerns for different product classes.

Group 4 report: Felt that regulations should focus on human oral consumption.

2nd breakout session question:

Building on the first breakout conversation, what might be included in this regulation?

- Concentration (and who sets it)?
- Food manufacturing processes (GMP)?
- Labeling?

Group 4 report: The regulation should cover all of these, plus other aspects. "Concentration" probably needs the most regulatory attention. It is not possible to put "everything" in the law; rather, provide guidance so that agencies can make good decisions. "We need to augment federal regulations."

Group 3 report: Testing must be regulated. GAP, serving size. There is a list of things that are allowed in foods at certain levels (GRAS). This group suggested the need to consider possible unintended side effects of regulations; no examples were given.

Group 2 report: Noted that regulations already exist for human food, animal food, supplements. Also, is it possible to have third party testing of final products?

Group 1 report: Big takeaway is “don’t stray from the CFRs.” We do have to thinking about concentrations. How to establish “safe limit?” Safety is important, and we need more information on this aspect. Rules should be written to allow adjustment as more is learned over time.

4:00 Close