

United States
Department of
Agriculture

DATE: October 30, 2009

Food and Nutrition Service MEMO CODE: SP 03-2010

3101 Park Center Drive SUBJECT: Extension of Food Safety Inspections Reporting Requirement FY2010

Alexandria, VA 22302-1500 TO: Regional Directors

Special Nutrition Programs

All Regions

State Directors

Child Nutrition Programs

All States

Section 749(c) of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-80) amended section 9(h)(3) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA) to extend through FY 2010 the requirement that State Agencies annually collect information on the number of food safety inspections obtained by schools under their jurisdiction and report the consolidated data to the Department of Agriculture. Public Law 111-80 also extends through FY 2010 the Department's responsibility under section 9(h)(4) of the NSLA to monitor the State Agency reports on food safety inspections. Public Law 111-80 made no other changes to the food safety inspections provision.

To meet the reporting requirement established by Public Law 111-80, State Agencies must submit a food safety inspections report for the school year 2009-2010 by November 15, 2010. As in the past, the inspections report should state the total number of schools that obtained zero inspection, one inspection, two inspections, and three or more inspections. A reminder of this requirement will be sent next fall.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the report for school year 2008-2009 is due November 15, 2009 and must be sent to MSLPFoodSafetyInspections@fns.usda.gov. To date, we have received very few responses and encourage everyone to submit their responses as early as possible so that we can respond to inquiries.

The Agriculture Appropriations Act supports the Department's efforts to ensure that school children have access to safe and nutritious meals. For additional information, State Agencies should contact the Regional Offices (ROs) and ROs should contact the Child Nutrition Division, School Programs Section.



Cynthia Long Director Child Nutrition Division