



DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

1 WEST WILSON STREET
P O BOX 2859
MADISON WI 53701-2859

Jim Doyle
Governor

Karen Timberlake
Secretary

State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

608-266-1251
FAX: 608-267-2832
dhfs.wisconsin.gov

April 16 2009

Dear Mr. Fernandez:

Thank you for your letter to Secretary Karen E. Timberlake regarding footwear in restaurants, and in both retail and grocery stores. Secretary Timberlake has asked me to respond to your letter on her behalf, and I welcome the opportunity to do so.

The Wisconsin Food Code, Appendix HFS 196 and ATCP 75, governing restaurants, retail establishments and grocery stores does not have specific requirements regarding the wearing of shoes or any other footwear for patrons. The Wisconsin Food Code covers the conduct of food service personnel only; and footwear for patrons is usually the province of the establishment's management team.

If you have any further questions, please contact James Mack with the Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health at 608.266.8351.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Seth Foldy / SA".

Seth Foldy, MD, MPH, FAAFP
State Health Officer and Administrator
Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Division of Public Health