



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

246 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

614/460-3543
www.odh.ohio.gov

Ted Strickland/Governor

Alvin D. Jackson, M.D./Director of Health

APR 22 2009

Dear Mr. Blechner:

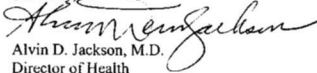
I am responding to your request for information regarding laws, codes, or regulations, within the purview of the Ohio Department of Health, requiring patrons in restaurants, retail establishments, and grocery stores to wear shoes or other footwear.

The Ohio Department of Health provides the oversight of the food service operation (restaurant inspection program at the state level. Currently, there are no references in the law and rules pertaining to food service operations that require patrons to wear shoes or other footwear. A copy of your letter is being forwarded to the Ohio Department of Agriculture in regards to regulations pertaining to grocery stores. They may be contacted at the following address:

Ohio Department of Agriculture
Food Safety Division
8995 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

In addition, local jurisdictions in Ohio, such as municipalities, have the authority to adopt local ordinances related to public facilities. If you have any additional questions pertaining to the wearing of shoes or other footwear as related to food service operations, please feel free to contact Ted Strouth of the Food Safety Program here at the Ohio Department of Health at (614) 466-1390.

Sincerely,



Alvin D. Jackson, M.D.
Director of Health

ADJ/ts