



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES
BUREAU FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Joe Manchin III
Governor

Martha Yeager Walker
Secretary

April 9, 2009

Rick Lucas

Dear Mr. Lucas,

Your letter to Martha Walker, West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Secretary, regarding regulations requiring patrons to wear shoes in food or retail establishments in West Virginia has been referred to me for response.

No legislative rules or public health laws currently exist in West Virginia that requires patrons to wear appropriate footwear when frequenting establishments such as restaurants or retail establishments. However, Chapter §16- 2-11 of the West Virginia Code allows local health departments to adopt and promulgate local ordinances and County Commissions also have the authority to adopt and promulgate ordinances which could make this a county requirement.

If this office can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at 304-558-6730.

Sincerely,


Brad Cochran, R.S., Director
Public Health Sanitation Division

cc: Martha Yeager Walker
Chris Curtis, MPH