Dear Mr. Sands:

Thank you for your May 30, 2017 letter to New York State Commissioner of Health, Howard A. Zucker, M.D., J.D., inquiring about any State Department of Health regulations requiring patrons of restaurants and other regulated establishments to wear shoes.

While it is not uncommon to see signs displayed at retail establishments requiring shoes to be worn, there are no State Health Department regulations to that effect. However, in New York State, local health departments may establish more stringent local sanitary code requirements. Although we are not aware of any local codes requiring patrons to wear shoes, you may wish to research local health department requirements. Contact information for local health departments can be found on the Department's website at: http://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/doh_pub_contacts_map.htm.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Mr. Darby Greco, Chief Sanitarian, at (518) 402-7600.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Miner, Director
Bureau of Community Environmental Health and Food Protection

cc: D. Greco