



The Intersection of Government and the Food Industry During the COVID -19 Pandemic

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Strategic Goals

Vision

Frozen foods are essential in a dynamic marketplace.

Mission

AFFI advances the interest of all segments of the frozen food and beverage industry.



Agenda

The Intersection of Government and the Food Industry During the COVID -19 Pandemic

- Priorities for Government and Industry
- Lessons Learned
- Uncertainties ahead



Priority: Worker Safety

- Worker Safety
 - Urgent dissemination of scientific and policy recommendations and insights
 - Prevent infection from community to mfg facility
 - Prevent transmission within facility
 - Prevent super spreader event
 - Industry, FDA, CDC, OSHA



Priority: Business Continuity

- Business Continuity
 - Critical infrastructure designation
 - FDA and USDA Regulatory flexibility – school meals, labeling, audits, comment extensions
 - Legislation - CARES Act
 - Executive Order to Maintain Meat Processing Facilities
 - Seasonal operations



Priority: Food Safety

- Food Safety
 - Reassure public of safe food supply
 - COVID and China



Lessons learned

- Resilient food safety system!
- Need for more coordination between federal government and states
- What changes should be permanent?



Vaccinate Our Way to The New Normal

- Food and Ag, Food Service, Grocery workers all in vaccine **priority phase 1b**
- Early feedback ~ 50% of food workers are unsure or don't plan to take vaccine
- Vaccine Resources:
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/toolkits/essential-workers.html>
- <https://covidvaccineproject.org/>
- <https://affi.org/safety/coronavirus/>



**Timing of return to
"normalcy"**

**What will "normal"
look like?**

THANK YOU

AFFI AMERICAN
FROZEN FOOD
INSTITUTE

