
ASSOCIATION OF FOOD AND DRUG OFFICIALS

2013

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2013-6

Submitted by: AFDO Seafood Committee

Date: June 10, 2013

Concerning: Formal request for the release and sharing of the quantitative risk and benefits assessment conducted by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that has been published in draft form for public comment since 2009 and is paramount to resolving the inconsistency in fish consumption advice to pregnant women and other at risk populations in the United States

Whereas, AFDO approved and issued three Resolutions in May 2011 (copies attached) calling for release of the related information available through FDA, and

Whereas, FDA's Deputy Commissioner for Foods, Michael R. Taylor acknowledged the 2011 AFDO Resolutions 1, 2 and 3 through a letter to the AFDO 2012 President, Oscar Garrison (copy attached) indicating their intentions to have the final draft of the assessment due in 2012, and

Whereas, the AFDO Seafood Committee and related expertise have continued to discuss and anticipate release of the requested information since 2011, and

Whereas, additional science-based information culminating since 2009 provides further evidence in support of resolutions to address inconsistencies in public health advisors regarding exposure to methylmercury, and

Whereas, the prevailing public advisors regarding seafood consumption for pregnant women and other at risk populations remain inconsistent between the pertinent federal agencies and public outreach programs, and

Whereas, the inconsistencies place a burden on state public health agencies on how to interpret advice on a priority basis, in light of the prevailing science and Dietary Guidelines for Americans; therefore, be it

Resolved, that AFDO submits a formal request to release the final version of FDA's "Draft Report of Quantitative Risk and Benefit Assessment of Consumption of Commercial Fish, Focusing on Fetal Neurodevelopmental Effects (Measured by Verbal Development in Children) and on Coronary Heart Disease and Stroke in the General Population," that has been available only in draft form since January 2009.