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# ASSOCIATION OF FOOD AND DRUG OFFICIALS

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2016

## RESOLUTION NUMBER 2016-6

**Submitted by:** AFDO Board of Directors

**Date:** June 24, 2016

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**Concerning: Best Practices for Environmental Assessments of Manufactured Food Facilities and Farms**

**Whereas**, AFDO believes environmental assessments are essential in the investigation of foodborne illness; and

**Whereas**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have developed best practices and training related to conducting environmental assessments in retail food establishments; and

**Whereas**, a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) working group has developed best practices for conducting environmental assessments of manufactured food facilities and farms; and

**Whereas**, to date, best practices for conducting environmental assessment of manufactured food facilities and farms have not been released or provided to state and local government partners; and

**Whereas**, absent consistent best practices federal, state, and local investigators across the country are not uniformly conducting environmental assessments during or after foodborne illness investigations and other incidents; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that AFDO request FDA to release for comment the current draft best practices for conducting environmental assessment of manufactured foods facilities and farms or that a working group including FDA, state and local officials be established to review and finalize the unreleased best practices so they may be utilized by federal, state, and local food inspectors/investigators to standardize the approach for conducting environmental assessments.