

Mobile Food Facility Law

Excerpts from the California Health and Safety Code
(Sections from CalCode that pertain to mobile food facilities)

2023 changes to Calcode are in red print

Definitions

113751. "COMMISSARY" means a food facility that services mobile food facilities, mobile support units, or vending machines where any of the following occur:

- (a) Food, containers, or supplies are stored.
- (b) Food is prepared or prepackaged for sale or service at other locations.
- (c) Utensils are cleaned.
- (d) Liquid and solid wastes are disposed, or potable water is obtained.

113784. "FOOD COMPARTMENT" means an enclosed space including, but not limited to, an air pot, blender, bulk dispensing system, covered chafing dish, and covered ice bin, with all of the following characteristics:

- (a) The space is defined by a physical barrier from the outside environment that completely encloses all food, food-contact surfaces, and the handling of nonprepackaged food.
- (b) All access openings are equipped with tight-fitting closures, or one or more alternative barriers that effectively protect the food from contamination, facilitate safe food handling, while minimizing exposure to the environment.
- (c) It is constructed from materials that are nontoxic, smooth, easily cleanable, and durable and is constructed to facilitate the cleaning of the interior and exterior of the compartment

113818. "LIMITED FOOD PREPARATION" (a) means food preparation that is restricted to one or more of the following:

- (1) Heating, frying, baking, roasting, popping, shaving of ice, blending, steaming or boiling of hot dogs, or assembly of nonprepackaged food.
- (2) Dispensing and portioning of nonpotentially hazardous food **or dispensing and portioning for immediate service to a customer of food that has been temperature controlled until immediately prior to portioning or dispensing.**
- (3) Holding, portioning, and dispensing of any foods that are prepared for satellite food service by the onsite permanent food facility or prepackaged by another approved source.
- (4) **Holding, portioning, and dispensing of any foods that are prepared by a catering operation.**
- (5) **Slicing and chopping of nonpotentially hazardous food or produce that has been washed at an approved facility or slicing and chopping of food on a heated cooking surface during the cooking process.**
- (6) Cooking and seasoning to order.
- (7) Juicing or preparing beverages that are for immediate service, in response to an individual consumer order, that do not contain frozen milk products.
- (8) **Hot and cold holding of food that has been prepared at an approved permanent food facility.**

(9) Reheating of food that has been previously prepared at an approved permanent food facility and held at temperatures required by this chapter.

(b) "Limited food preparation" does not include any of the following:

- (1) Slicing and chopping potentially hazardous food, other than produce, unless it is on the heated cooking surface.
- (2) Thawing.
- (3) Cooling of cooked potentially hazardous food.
- (4) Grinding raw ingredients or potentially hazardous food.
- (5) Washing of foods.
- (6) Cooking of potentially hazardous food for later use.
- (7) Handling, manufacturing, freezing, processing, or packaging of milk, milk products, or products resembling milk products subject to licensing under Division 15 (commencing with Section 32501) of the Food and Agricultural Code.

113831. "MOBILE FOOD FACILITY"

- (a) means any vehicle used in conjunction with a commissary or other permanent food facility upon which food is sold or distributed at retail. "mobile food facility" does not include a "transporter" used to transport packaged food from a food facility, or other approved source to the consumer.
- (b) "Single operating site mobile food facilities" means at least one, but not more than four, unenclosed mobile food facilities, and their auxiliary units, that operate adjacent to each other at a single location.
- (c) "Compact mobile food operation" means a mobile food facility that operates from an individual or from a pushcart, stand, display, pedal-driven cart, wagon, showcase, rack, or other nonmotorized conveyance.

113833. "MOBILE SUPPORT UNIT" means a vehicle used in conjunction with a commissary or other permanent food facility that travels to, and services, mobile food facilities as needed to replenish supplies, including food and potable water, clean the interior of the unit, or dispose of liquid or solid wastes.

113839. "NONPERMANENT FOOD FACILITY" means a food facility that operates from a mobile unit or at a nonpermanent location, including, but not limited to, a certified farmers' market, a mobile food facility, a mobile support unit, a temporary food facility, or a vending machines.

113843. "OPEN-AIR BARBECUE" means a piece of equipment for barbecuing food where the food is prepared out of doors by cooking directly over hot coals, heated lava, hot stones, gas flame, or other method approved by the department, on equipment suitably designed and maintained for use out of doors, that is operated by a temporary food facility, or a mobile food facility that remains fixed during hours of operations at a community event or a permanent food facility.

113868.

"Portable" means equipment that is capable of being lifted and moved or has utility connections that are designed to be disconnected or of sufficient length to permit the unit

to be moved for cleaning, and does not exceed 100 pounds (46 kg) in weight or is otherwise designed to be mobile.

113885. "REFRIGERATION UNIT" means a mechanical unit that extracts heat from an area through liquefaction and evaporation of a fluid by a compressor, flame, or thermoelectric device, and includes a mechanical thermostatic control device that regulates refrigerated blown air into an enclosed area at or below the minimum required food storage temperature of potentially hazardous foods in conformance with Section 113996.

113889. "REMODEL" means construction, building, or repair to the food facility that requires a permit from the local building authority. For purposes of mobile food facility, temporary food facility, and satellite food service, "remodel" means any replacement or significant modification of an integral piece of equipment

Enclosure

113984.

- (a) Adequate and suitable counter space shall be provided for all food preparation operations.
- (b) Except as specified in subdivision (c), food preparation shall be conducted within a fully enclosed food facility.
- (c) Limited food preparation shall be conducted within a food compartment or as approved by the enforcement agency. Subject to subdivision (g), this subdivision shall not be construed to require an additional food compartment when adding ingredients to a beverage or dispensing into a serving container when the beverage is prepared for immediate service in response to an individual consumer order.
- (d) Food shall be prepared with suitable utensils and on surfaces that, prior to use, have been cleaned, rinsed, and sanitized as specified in Section 114117 to prevent cross-contamination.
- (e) Overhead protection shall be provided above all food preparation, food display, warewashing, and food storage areas.
- (f) All food shall be thawed, washed, sliced, and cooled within an approved fully enclosed food facility.
- (g) Based upon local environmental conditions, location, and other similar factors, the enforcement officer may establish additional structural or operational requirements or both for mobile food facilities as necessary to ensure that foods, food-contact surfaces, and utensils are of a safe and sanitary quality.

Open Air BBQ

114143. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this part, neither the department, nor any city, county, city and county air pollution control district, or air quality management district shall require the enclosure of an open-air barbecue or outdoor wood-burning oven if the enforcement officer determines that the barbecue or wood-burning oven meets all of the following requirements:

- (a) The open-air barbecue or outdoor wood-burning oven is operated on the same premises as, in reasonable proximity to, and in conjunction with, a permanent food facility that is approved for food preparation, or a temporary food facility or a mobile food facility that is operating at a community event. The permit holder of the permanent food facility, temporary food facility or mobile food facility shall be deemed to be the permit holder of the open-air barbecue or outdoor wood-burning oven, and shall be responsible for ensuring that it is operated in full compliance with this part.
- (b) The open-air barbecue or outdoor wood-burning oven is not operated in, or out of, any motor vehicle, or in any area or location that may constitute a fire hazard, as determined by the enforcement officer.
- (c) The open-air barbecue or outdoor wood-burning oven is separated from public access to prevent food contamination or injury to the public by using ropes or other approved methods.
- (d) If the open-air barbecue or outdoor wood-burning oven is a permanent structure, it shall be equipped with an impervious and easily cleanable floor surface that extends a minimum of five feet from the open-air barbecue or outdoor wood-burning oven facility on all open sides.
- (e) Sanitary facilities, including, but not limited to, toilet facilities and handwashing facilities shall be available for use within 200 feet in travel distance of the open-air barbecue or outdoor wood-burning oven and shall comply with all provisions of this part.

Mobile Water and Wastewater Tanks

114205. Nonpermanent food facilities that handle nonprepackaged food shall be equipped with potable water and wastewater tanks, unless approved temporary water and wastewater connections are provided.

114207. Materials that are used in the construction of potable water and wastewater tanks and appurtenances shall be safe, durable, corrosion-resistant, nonabsorbent, and finished to have a smooth, easily cleanable surface.

114209. Potable water tanks and wastewater tanks shall be sloped to an outlet that ensures complete drainage of the tank and designed and constructed so as to be easily and completely drained.

114211.

- (a) The water system shall be designed and constructed using materials that enable water to be introduced without contamination.

- (b) All tanks, line couplings, valves, and all other plumbing shall be designed, installed, maintained, and constructed of materials that will not contaminate the water supply, food, utensils, or equipment.
- (c) All waste lines shall be connected to wastewater tanks with watertight seals.
- (d) Any connection to a wastewater tank shall preclude the possibility of contaminating any food, food-contact surface, or utensil.

114213.

- (a) Any potable water or wastewater tank mounted within a mobile food facility or mobile support unit shall have an air vent overflow provided in a manner that will prevent potential flooding of the interior of the facility.
- (b) If provided, a water tank vent shall terminate in a downward direction and shall be covered with 16 mesh per square inch screen or equivalent when the vent is in a protected area or a protective filter when the vent is in an area that is not protected from windblown dirt and debris.

114215. Hoses used in conjunction with nonpermanent food facilities shall meet all of the following requirements:

- (a) A hose used for conveying potable water from a water tank shall be:
 - (1) Safe.
 - (2) Durable, corrosion-resistant, and nonabsorbent.
 - (3) Resistant to pitting, chipping, crazing, scratching, scoring, distortion, and decomposition.
 - (4) Finished with a smooth interior surface.
 - (5) Protected from contamination at all times.
 - (6) Clearly and durably identified as to its use if not permanently attached.
- (b) Liquid waste lines shall not be the same color as hoses used for potable water.
- (c) Hoses used on a mobile food facility or a mobile support unit and potable water tank connectors shall have matching connecting devices. Devices for external cleaning shall not be used for potable water purposes on the mobile food facility. Hoses and faucets equipped with quick connect and disconnect devices for these purposes shall be deemed to meet the requirements of this subdivision. Exterior hose-connection valves shall be attached to mobile food facilities or mobile support units and shall be located above the ground with an approved water connection.

114217.

- (a) A potable water tank of sufficient capacity to furnish an adequate quantity of potable water for food preparation, warewashing, and handwashing purposes shall be provided for nonpermanent food facilities .
- (b) At least five gallons of water shall be provided exclusively for handwashing for each nonpermanent food facility. Any water need for other purposes shall be in addition to the five gallons for handwashing.
- (c) Except as specified in subdivision (d), at least 25 gallons of water shall be provided for food preparation and warewashing.
- (d) At least 15 gallons of water shall be provided for nonpermanent food facilities that conduct limited food preparation.

- (e) The water delivery system shall deliver at least one gallon per minute to each sink basin.

114219. A potable water tank shall be enclosed from the filling inlet to the discharge outlet and emptied to ensure complete drainage of the tank.

114221.

- (a) Water tanks shall be designed with an access port for inspection and cleaning. The access port shall be in the top of the tank and flanged upward at least one-half inch and equipped with a port cover assembly that is provided with a gasket and a device for securing the cover in place and flanged to overlap the opening and sloped to drain.
- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), water tanks that are not accessible for inspection may comply with this section by submitting written operational procedures for the cleaning and sanitizing of the potable water tank. The enforcement agency shall review and approve the procedures prior to implementation and an approved copy shall be kept on the mobile food facility during hours of operation.

114223. A fitting with "V" type threads on a water tank inlet or outlet shall be allowed only when a hose is permanently attached.

114225.

- (a) Potable water tanks shall be installed in a manner that will allow water to be filled with an easily accessible inlet.
- (b) A potable water tank's inlet and outlet shall be positioned so that they are protected from contaminants such as waste discharge, dust, oil, or grease.
- (c) Nonpermanent food facilities shall be provided with a connection of a size and type that will prevent its use for any other service and shall be constructed so that backflow and other contamination of the water supply is prevented.

114227. A filter that does not pass oil or oil vapors shall be installed in the air supply line between the compressor and potable water system when compressed air is used to pressurize the water tank system.

114229. If not in use, a potable water tank and hose inlet and outlet fitting shall be protected using a cap and keeper chain, quick disconnect, closed cabinet, closed storage tube, or other approved protective cover or device.

114231. A nonpermanent food facility's potable water tank inlet shall be three-fourths inch in inner diameter or less and provided with a hose connection of a size or type that will prevent its use for any other service.

114233. A water tank, pump, and hoses shall be flushed and sanitized before being placed in service after construction, repair, modification, and periods of nonuse.

114235. A person shall operate a water tank, pump, and hoses so that backflow and other contamination of the water supply are prevented.

114238. A water tank, pump, and hoses used for conveying potable water shall not be used for any other purpose.

114239.

- (a) Potable water tanks may be constructed in a manner that will allow for a potable water tank to be removed from within the nonpermanent food facility compartments for refilling or replacing.
- (b) Refilling of a potable water tank shall be conducted through an approved and sanitary method, such as at the commissary.
- (c) Storage of any prefilled water tank, or empty and clean water tanks, or both, shall be within the nonpermanent food facility or in an approved manner that will protect against contamination.

114240.

- (a) Wastewater tanks shall be of a capacity commensurate with the level of food handling activity.
- (b) Wastewater tanks shall have a minimum capacity that is 50 percent greater than the potable water tanks. In no case shall the wastewater capacity be less than 7.5 gallons. Where potable water for the preparation of a food or beverage is supplied, an additional wastewater tank capacity equal to at least 15 percent of the water supply shall be provided.
- (c) Additional wastewater tank capacity may be required where wastewater production is likely to exceed tank capacity.
- (d) Where ice is utilized in the storage, display, or service of food or beverages, an additional minimum wastewater holding tank shall be provided with a capacity equal to one-third of the volume of the ice cabinet to accommodate the drainage of ice melt.
- (e) Wastewater tanks on nonpermanent food facilities shall be equipped with a shut-off valve.

114241.

- (a) Wastewater tanks may be constructed in a manner that will allow the wastewater tank to be removed from within the approved nonpermanent food facility compartments for replacing.
- (b) Retail food operations shall cease during removal and replacement of tanks.
- (c) Sewage and other liquid wastes shall be removed from a nonpermanent food facility at an approved waste servicing area or by an approved sewage transport vehicle in such a way that a public health hazard or nuisance is not created.

114242. Wastewater tanks shall be thoroughly flushed and drained in a sanitary manner during the servicing operation.

Service Windows

114259.2

Pass through window service openings shall be limited to 216 square inches each. The

service openings shall not be closer together than 18 inches. Each opening shall be provided with a solid or screened window, equipped with a self-closing device. Screening shall be at least 16 mesh per square inch. Pass through windows of up to 432 square inches are APPROVED if equipped with an air curtain device. The counter surface of the service openings shall be SMOOTH and EASILY CLEANABLE.

Animals

114259.5.

- (a) Except as specified in subdivision (b), live animals may not be allowed in a food facility.
- (b) Live animals may be allowed in any of the following situations if the contamination of food, clean equipment, utensils, linens, and unwrapped single-use articles cannot result:
 - (1) Edible fish or decorative fish in aquariums, shellfish or crustacea on ice or under refrigeration, and shellfish and crustacean in display tank systems.
 - (2) Animals intended for consumption if the live animals are kept separate from all food and utensil handling areas, are held in sanitary conditions, are slaughtered in a separate room designed solely for that purpose and separated from other food and utensil handling areas, and maintained in an area that has ventilation separate from food and utensil handling areas.
 - (3) Dogs under the control of a uniformed law enforcement officer or of uniformed employees of private patrol operators and operators of a private patrol service who are licensed pursuant to Chapter 11.5 (commencing with Section 7580) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, while those employees are acting within the course and scope of their employment as private patrol persons.
 - (4) In areas that are not used for food preparation and that are usually open for consumers, such as dining and sales areas, service animals that are controlled by a disabled employee or person, if a health or safety hazard will not result from the presence or activities of the service animal.
 - (5) Pets in the common dining areas of restricted food service facilities at times other than during meals if all of the following conditions are satisfied:
 - (A) Effective partitioning and self-closing doors separate the common dining areas from food storage or food preparation areas.
 - (B) Condiments, equipment, and utensils are stored in enclosed cabinets or removed from the common dining areas when pets are present.
 - (C) Dining areas including tables, countertops, and similar surfaces are effectively cleaned before the next meal service.
 - (6) In areas that are not used for food preparation, storage, sales, display, or dining, in which there are caged animals or animals that are similarly restricted, such as in a variety store that sells pets or a tourist park that displays animals.
 - (7) If kept at least 20 feet (6 meters) away from any mobile food facility, temporary food facility, or certified farmers' market.

- (c) Those persons and operators described in paragraphs (3) and (4) are liable for any damage done to the premises or facilities by the dog.
- (d) Live or dead fish bait may be stored if contamination of food, clean equipment, utensils, linens, and unwrapped single-use articles cannot result.

General Requirements/Housing and Community Development

114294.

- (a) All mobile food facilities and mobile support units shall meet the applicable requirements in Chapters 1 to 8, inclusive, and Chapter 13, unless specifically exempted from any of these provisions as provided in this chapter.
- (b) The enforcement agency shall initially approve all mobile food facilities and mobile support units as complying with the provisions of this chapter and may require reapproval if deemed necessary.
- (c) Each mobile food facility that is either a special purpose commercial modular and coach as defined by Section 18012.5 or a commercial modular coach as defined by Section 18001.8 shall be certified by the Department of Housing and Community Development, consistent with Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 18025) of Part 2 of Division 13, and regulations promulgated pursuant to that chapter. In addition, the enforcement agency shall approve all equipment installation prior to operation.

For a certification inspection call (916) 255-2501

Commissary

114295.

- (a) Except as specified in subdivision (b), all mobile food facilities shall operate in conjunction with a commissary, mobile support unit, or other facility approved by the enforcement agency.
- (b) This section does not apply to mobile food facilities that operate at community events as defined in Section 113755 and that remain in a fixed position during food preparation and its hours of operation.
- (c) mobile food facilities shall be stored at or within a commissary or other location approved by the enforcement agency in order to have protection from unsanitary conditions.
- (d) Mobile support units shall be operated from and stored at a designated commissary and shall be subject to permitting and plan review.
- (e) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, a mobile food facility that is engaged in food preparation, other than limited food preparation, as defined in Section 113818, shall not operate in conjunction with a mobile support unit.

114297.

- (a) Mobile food facilities shall be cleaned and serviced at least once daily during an operating day.
- (b) Except as specified in subdivision (c), all mobile food facilities shall report to the

commissary, or other approved facility on a daily basis.

- (c) Mobile food facilities that are serviced by a mobile support unit and that do not report to a commissary on a daily basis shall be stored in a manner that protects the mobile food facility from contamination. All food shall be stored at the commissary or other approved facility at the end of the operating day.
- (d) Mobile support units shall report to a commissary or other approved facility for cleaning, servicing, and storage at least daily.

114326. All commissaries and other approved facilities servicing mobile support units, mobile food facilities, and vending machines shall meet the applicable requirements in this part and any of the following to accommodate all operations necessary to support mobile support units, mobile food facilities, and vending machines:

- (a) Adequate facilities shall be provided for the sanitary disposal of liquid waste from the mobile food facility or mobile support unit being serviced.
- (b) Adequate facilities shall be provided for the handling and disposal of garbage and refuse originating from a mobile food facility or mobile support unit.
- (c) Potable water shall be available for filling the water tanks of each mobile food facility and mobile support unit that requires potable water. Faucets and other potable water sources shall be constructed, located, and maintained so as to minimize the possibility of contaminating the water being loaded.
- (d) Hot and cold water, under pressure, shall be available for cleaning mobile food facilities and mobile support units.
- (e) Adequate facilities shall be provided for the storage of food, utensils, and other supplies.
- (f) Notwithstanding Section 113984, commissaries that service mobile food facilities that conduct limited food preparation shall provide a food preparation area.
- (g) Servicing areas at commissaries shall be provided with overhead protection, except that areas used only for the loading of water or the discharge of sewage and other liquid waste through the use of a closed system of hoses need not be provided with overhead protection.
- (h) Servicing areas used for cleaning shall be sloped and drained to an approved wastewater system.
- (i) Adequate electrical outlets shall be provided for mobile food facilities and mobile support units that require electrical service.

Name, address, etc... on vehicle

114299.

- (a) Except as specified in subdivision (c), the business name or name of the operator, city, state, ZIP Code, and name of the permittee, if different from the name of the food facility, shall be legible, clearly visible to consumers, and permanently affixed on the consumer side of the mobile food facility and on a mobile support unit.
- (b) The name shall be in letters at least 3 inches high and shall be of a color contrasting with the vehicle exterior. Letters and numbers for the city, state, ZIP Code, and permitholder name shall not be less than one inch high and the color of each letter and number must contrast with its background.
- (c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), motorized mobile food facilities and mobile

support units shall have the required identification on two sides.

Construction Standards

114301.

- (a) Except to the extent that an alternative construction standard is explicitly prescribed by this section, construction standards for mobile food facilities that are subject to Part 2 (commencing with Section 18000) of Division 13 shall be governed by that part.
- (b) mobile food facility equipment, including, but not limited to, cooking equipment, the interior of cabinet units, and compartments, shall be designed and made of materials that result in smooth, readily accessible, and easily cleanable surfaces.
 - (1) Unfinished wooden surfaces are prohibited.
 - (2) Construction joints and seams shall be tightly fitted and sealed so as to be easily cleanable. Silicone sealant or equivalent waterproof compounds shall be acceptable, provided that the gap is smaller than one-quarter inch and applied smooth so as to prevent the entrance of liquid waste or vermin.
 - (3) Except as specified in Section 114314, nonportable equipment shall be an integral part of the primary unit.
- (c) Mobile food facilities that handle potentially hazardous food, except for prepackaged frozen ready-to-eat foods, whole fish, and whole aquatic invertebrates, shall be equipped with refrigeration units as defined in Section 113885.
- (d) All new and replacement gas-fired appliances shall meet applicable ANSI standards. All new and replacement electrical appliances shall meet applicable Underwriters Laboratory standards. However, for units subject to Part 2 (commencing with Section 18000) of Division 13, these appliances shall comply with standards prescribed by Sections 18028, 18029.3, and 18029.5.
- (e) Space around pipes, conduits, or hoses that extend through cabinets, floors, or outer walls shall be sealed. The closure shall be smooth and easily cleanable.
- (f) Equipment in which spillage is likely to occur shall have a drip tray fitted so that spillage drains into a waste tank.
- (g) All equipment shall be installed so as to be easily cleanable, prevent vermin harborage, and provide adequate access for service and maintenance.
 - (1) Equipment shall be spaced apart or sealed together for easy cleaning. There shall be a minimum of four inches of unobstructed space provided for sanitary maintenance beneath counter mounted equipment or between the sides of adjacent equipment.
 - (2) portable equipment or machinery need not comply with the minimum leg height requirement.
 - (3) Threads, nuts, or rivets shall not be exposed where they interfere with cleaning. Threads, nuts, or rivets that interfere with cleaning shall be sealed or capped.
 - (4) All floor mounted equipment shall be sealed to the floor to prevent moisture from getting under the equipment, or it shall be raised at least six inches off the floor by means of an easily cleanable leg and foot.
- (h) Floors, walls, and ceilings of all enclosed food preparation areas shall be

constructed so that the surfaces are impervious, smooth, and easily cleanable. Floor surfaces shall provide employee safety from slipping. The juncture of the floor and wall shall be covered with a 3/8 inch minimum radius coving, with the floor surface extending up the wall at least four inches.

- (i) Notwithstanding Section 114143, ground or floor surfaces where cooking processes are conducted from a grill, barbecue, or other unenclosed cooking unit on a mobile food facility shall be impervious, smooth, easily cleanable, and shall provide employee safety from slipping. Ground or floor surfaces in compliance with this section shall extend a minimum of five feet on all open sides of where cooking processes are conducted.

114303.

- (a) Employee entrance doors to food preparation areas shall be self-closing and kept closed when not in use.
- (b) The mobile food facility, and all equipment and utensils shall be protected from potential contamination and kept clean, in good repair, and free of vermin.
- (c) During transportation, storage, and operation of a mobile food facility, food, food contact surfaces, and utensils shall be protected from contamination.
- (d) The permit holder of an unenclosed mobile food facility handling nonprepackaged food shall develop and follow written operational procedures for food handling and the cleaning and sanitizing of food contact surfaces and utensils. The enforcement agency shall review and approve the procedures prior to implementation and an approved copy shall be kept on the mobile food facility during periods of operation.

114305.

- (a) During operation, no food intended for retail shall be conveyed, held, stored, displayed, or served from any place other than a mobile food facility, except for the restocking of product in a manner approved by the enforcement agency.
- (b) Food preparation counter space shall be provided commensurate with the food operation, adjacent to all cooking equipment.
- (c) Except as specified in subdivision (d), food products remaining after each day's operation shall be stored in an approved commissary or other approved facility.
- (d) Potentially hazardous foods held at or above 135°F on a mobile food facility or mobile support unit shall be destroyed at the end of the operating day.

114306.

- (a) A single operating site mobile food facility is restricted to produce, prepackaged food, and limited food preparation.
- (b) Notwithstanding Section 113984, a mobile food facility operating within a fully enclosed structure shall not be required to provide a secondary food compartment over food preparation areas.
- (c) A single operating site mobile food facility that is required to provide warewashing and handwashing facilities shall provide a warewashing sink and a handwashing sink per site operation. A warewashing and handwashing sink contained in a facility to which this subdivision applies shall be conveniently located so as to be accessible during all hours of operation. Additional handwashing sinks may be

required pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 113953.

- (d) Notwithstanding Section 114095, a warewashing sink may be shared by not more than four mobile food facilities operating as a single operating site mobile food facility that is required to provide a warewashing sink, if the sink is conveniently located as to be accessible during all hours of operation.
- (e) For purposes of permitting and enforcement, the permit holder of each single operating site mobile food facility location shall be the same.

Operation at Community Events

114307. Mobile food facilities that operate at community events and that remain fixed during food preparation and its hours of operation may:

- (a) Include a staffed counter that serves hot and cold beverages and ice that are not potentially hazardous food and that are dispensed from approved bulk dispensing units.
- (b) Store supplies and food that are not potentially hazardous in unopened containers adjacent to the mobile food facility or in a nearby temporary storage unit. "Unopened container" means a factory sealed container that has not been previously opened and that is suitably constructed to be resistant to contamination from moisture, dust, insects, and rodents.
- (c) Operate an open-air barbecue adjacent to the mobile food facility if approved by the enforcement agency.

Exemptions

114309.

- (a) Mobile food facilities and mobile support units shall be exempt from the requirements of Sections 114250, 114256.1, and 114279.
- (b) Nothing in this chapter shall be deemed to require any person to replace or modify an existing mobile food facility approved for operation prior to adoption of this part, so long as the facility is operated in accordance with the conditions of approval. Plans and specifications may be required by the enforcement agency if it determines that they are necessary to assure compliance with this part.
- (c) Mobile food facilities equipped with a one-compartment sink or two-compartment sink that was approved for operation prior to adoption of this part need not provide a three-compartment sink.

Handwash/Warewashing Sink

113953.2. A handwashing facility shall be provided with the following in dispensers at, or adjacent to, each handwashing facility:

- (a) Handwashing cleanser.
- (b) Sanitary single-use towels or a heated-air hand drying device.

114311. Mobile food facilities not under a valid permit as of January 1, 1997, from which nonprepackaged food is sold shall provide handwashing facilities. The handwashing

facilities shall be separate from the warewashing sink.

- (a) The handwashing sink shall have a minimum dimension of nine inches by nine inches in length and width and five inches in depth and be easily accessible by food employees.
- (b) The handwashing facility shall be separated from the warewashing sink by a metal splashguard with a height of at least six inches that extends from the back edge of the drainboard to the front edge of the drainboard, the corners of the barrier to be rounded. No splashguard is required if the distance between the handwashing sink and the warewashing sink drainboards is 24 inches or more.
- (c) This section shall not apply to mobile food facilities handling only whole produce or the bulk dispensing of nonpotentially hazardous beverages.

114313.

- (a) Except as specified in subdivisions (b) and (c), a mobile food facility where nonprepackaged food is cooked, blended, or otherwise prepared shall provide a warewashing sink with at least three compartments with two integral metal drainboards.
 - (1) The dimensions of each compartment shall be large enough to accommodate the cleaning of the largest utensil and either of the following:
 - (A) At least 12 inches wide, 12 inches long, and 10 inches deep.
 - (B) At least 10 inches wide, 14 inches long, and 10 inches deep.
 - (2) Each drainboard shall be at least the size of one of the sink compartments. The drainboards shall be installed with at least one-eighth inch per foot slope toward the sink compartment, and fabricated with a minimum of one-half inch lip or rim to prevent the draining liquid from spilling onto the floor.
 - (3) The sink shall be equipped with a mixing faucet and shall be provided with a swivel spigot capable of servicing all sink compartments.
- (b) If all utensils and equipment of a mobile food facility are washed and sanitized on a daily basis at the approved commissary or other approved food facility, and the mobile food facility provides and maintains an adequate supply of spare preparation and serving utensils in the mobile food facility as needed to replace those that become soiled or contaminated, then the mobile food facility shall not be required to provide a warewashing sink to only handle any of the following:
 - (1) Nonpotentially hazardous foods that do not require preparation other than heating, baking, popping, portioning, bulk dispensing, assembly, or shaving of ice.
 - (2) Steamed or boiled hot dogs.
 - (3) Tamales in the original, inedible wrapper.
- (c) An unenclosed mobile food facility that prepares potentially hazardous beverages for immediate service in response to an individual consumer order shall do one of the following:
 - (1) Provide a three-compartment sink described in subdivision (a).
 - (2) Provide at least one two-compartment sink that complies with subdivision (e) of Section 114099.3.
 - (3) Provide a one-compartment sink with at least one integral metal drainboard, an adequate supply of spare preparation and serving utensils to replace those that become soiled or contaminated, and warewashing facilities that

comply with subdivision (a) in a reasonable proximity to, and readily accessible for use by, food employees at all times.

114314.

- (a) Handwashing sinks and warewashing sinks for unenclosed mobile food facilities shall be an integral part of the primary unit or on an approved auxiliary conveyance that is used in conjunction with the mobile food facility.
- (b) Warewashing sinks for unenclosed mobile food facilities shall be equipped with overhead protection made of wood, canvas, or other materials that protect the sinks from bird and insect droppings, dust, precipitation, and other contaminants.

Restroom Facilities

114315.

(a) A food facility shall be operated within 200 feet travel distance of an approved and readily available toilet and handwashing facility, or as otherwise approved by the enforcement agency, to ensure that restroom facilities are available to facility employees whenever the mobile food facility is stopped to conduct business for more than a one-hour period.

(c) This section does not limit the authority of a local governing body to adopt, by ordinance or resolution, additional requirements for the public safety, including reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions pursuant to its authority under subdivision (b) of Section 22455 of the Vehicle Code.

Other Requirements

114317. The exterior of a mobile food facility and the surrounding area, as relating to the operation of food service, shall be maintained in a sanitary condition.

114319.

- (a) Spare tires, related automotive equipment, or special tools relating to the mechanical operation of the mobile food facility shall not be stored in the food preparation or food storage areas.
- (b) A separate cabinet or drawer shall be installed for the storage of insecticides or other poisonous substances in accordance with Section 114254, if these substances are used. All poisonous chemicals shall be kept in this cabinet or drawer in their original containers and in a manner that offers no contamination hazard to food or utensils.
- (c) During periods of inoperation, food and utensils shall be stored in one of the following methods:
 - (1) Within approved food storage facilities at the commissary or other approved facility.
 - (2) In food compartments approved by the enforcement agency where the food is protected at all times from contamination, exposure to the elements, ingress of rodents and other vermin, and temperature abuse.

114321. Mobile food facilities that are occupied during normal business operations shall have a clear, unobstructed height over the aisleway portion of the unit of at least 74 inches from floor to ceiling, and a minimum of 30 inches of unobstructed horizontal aisle space. This section shall not apply to vehicles under permit prior to January 1, 1996.

114322. Compressor units that are not an integral part of food equipment, auxiliary engines, generators, and similar equipment shall be installed in an area that is completely separated from food preparation and food storage and that is accessible from outside the unit for proper cleaning and maintenance.

114323.

- (a) A first-aid kit shall be provided and located in a convenient area in an enclosed case.
- (b) mobile food facilities that operate at more than one location in a calendar day shall be equipped to meet all of the following requirements:
 - (1) All utensils in a mobile food facility shall be stored so as to prevent their being thrown about in the event of a sudden stop, collision, or overturn. A safety knife holder shall be provided to avoid loose storage of knives in cabinets, boxes, or slots along counter aisles. Knife holders shall be designed to be easily cleanable and be manufactured of materials approved by the enforcement agency.
 - (2) Coffee urns, deep fat fryers, steam tables, and similar equipment shall be equipped with positive closing lids that are fitted with a secure latch mechanism that will prevent excessive spillage of hot liquids into the interior of a mobile food facility in the event of a sudden stop, collision, or overturn. As an alternative to this requirement, a coffee urn may be installed in a compartment that will prevent excessive spillage of coffee in the interior of the unit.
 - (3) Metal protective devices shall be installed on the glass liquid level sight gauges on all coffee urns.
- (c) Light bulbs and tubes shall be covered with a completely enclosed plastic safety shield or its equivalent, and installed so as to not constitute a hazard to personnel or food.
- (d) All liquefied petroleum equipment shall be installed to meet applicable fire authority standards, and this installation shall be approved by the fire authority. However, for units subject to Part 2 (commencing with Section 18000) of Division 13, this equipment and its installation shall comply with standards prescribed by Sections 18028 and 18029.5.
- (e) A properly charged and maintained minimum 10 BC-rated fire extinguisher to combat grease fires shall be properly mounted and readily accessible on the interior of any mobile food facility that is equipped with heating elements or cooking equipment.
- (f)
 - (1) Except for units subject to Part 2 (commencing with Section 18000) of Division 13, a second means of exit shall be provided in the side opposite the main exit door, or in the roof, or the rear of the unit, with an

unobstructed passage of at least 24 inches by 36 inches. The interior latching mechanism shall be operable by hand without special tools or key. The exit shall be labeled "Safety Exit" in contrasting colors with letters at least one inch high.

- (2) For units subject to Part 2 (commencing with Section 18000) of Division 13, the size, latching, and labeling of the second means of exit shall comply with standards prescribed by Sections 18028 and 18029.5.
- (g) All gas-fired appliances shall be properly insulated in a manner that will prevent excessive heat buildup and injury.

114325. Water heater requirements

(a) Except on a mobile food facility that only utilizes the water for handwashing purposes, a water heater or an instantaneous heater capable of heating water to a minimum of 120°F, interconnected with a potable water supply, shall be provided and shall operate independently of the vehicle engine. On a mobile food facility that only utilizes the water for handwashing purposes, a minimum one half gallon-capacity water heater or an instantaneous water heater capable of heating water to a minimum of 100°F, interconnected with a potable water supply, shall be provided and shall operate independently of the vehicle engine.

(b) A water heater with a minimum capacity of four gallons shall be provided for mobile food facilities that have a warewashing sink.

(c) A mobile food facility equipped with a three-gallon-capacity water heater that is in compliance with this section on January 1, 2014, is in compliance with this section after that date.

Mobile Support Unit Requirements

114327.

- (a) Mobile support units shall be subject to plan review and be approved by the enforcement agency. Requirements shall be based on proposed method of operation and number of mobile food facilities serviced.
- (b) Mobile support units shall meet all applicable requirements of this part and the following:
 - (1) Interior floor, sides, and top shall be free of cracks, seams, or linings where vermin may harbor, and shall be constructed of a smooth, washable, impervious material capable of withstanding frequent cleaning with approved sanitizing agents.
 - (2) Be constructed and operated so that no liquid wastes can drain onto any street, sidewalk, or premises.
 - (3) If used to transport potentially hazardous food, approved equipment to maintain food at the required temperatures shall be provided.
 - (4) food, utensils, and supplies shall be protected from contamination.
 - (5) A separate storage area shall be provided for all poisonous substances, detergents, bleaches, cleaning compounds, and all other injurious or poisonous materials.

(c) Mobile support units shall not be approved for warewashing.

Compact Mobile Food Operation

114368.

A compact mobile food operation, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 113831, shall meet the applicable requirements of Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 114294), except as provided in this chapter.

114368.1.

(a) Any compact mobile food operation with 25 square feet or less of display area from which only prepackaged nonpotentially hazardous food and whole uncooked produce is sold is exempt from the requirements of this part, except that the facility shall comply with all of the following:

(1) Sections 113980, 114047, 114049, 114390, 114393, 114397, and 114399.

(2) Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 113700).

(3) Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 113728).

(b) (1) A local enforcement agency may inspect a compact mobile food operation that is exempt, as specified in subdivision (a), during the facility's hours of operation and other reasonable times on the basis of a consumer complaint or just cause.

(2) For the purposes of determining compliance with this chapter, a compact mobile food operation that is not exempt as specified in subdivision (a) is subject to permitting and routine inspections or inspections on the basis of a consumer complaint or just cause.

(c) The local enforcement agency may recover the costs of investigation and enforcement of this section, subject to any limitations in this part on fines issuable to compact mobile food operations.

114368.2.

(a) Compact mobile food operations shall conduct only limited food preparation, as defined in Section 113818. Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, a compact mobile food operation, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 113831, may display or sell food outdoors, if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) Overhead protection are provided above all food display areas.

(2) Food items from the outdoor display are stored consistent with this chapter at all times other than during business hours.

(3) Outdoor displays comply with Section 113980 and have been approved by the enforcement agency if the compact mobile food operation is required to obtain a permit.

(b) A compact mobile food operation shall not sell food other than nonpotentially hazardous prepackaged food or whole produce, or conduct any food preparation, unless it meets the applicable operational requirements of this chapter, including applicable requirements for integral equipment, handwashing, and restroom access.

(c) Equipment that is required to be integral to a compact mobile food operation shall either be permanently attached to the primary unit or securely fastened to the primary unit by means that would prevent unintentional removal. Equipment may be considered integral despite being portable or otherwise removable for cleaning, maintenance, or as part of its regular function.

(d) A compact mobile food operation operating from an individual shall not conduct any food preparation or sell foods other than nonpotentially hazardous prepackaged food or whole produce.

114368.3

(a) (1) A permitted cottage food operation or microenterprise home kitchen operation may serve as a commissary or mobile support unit for up to two compact mobile food operations if the cottage food operation or microenterprise home kitchen operation permit includes an endorsement from the local enforcement agency that the cottage food operation or microenterprise home kitchen operation is capable of supporting the preparation and storage of the food being sold from the compact mobile food operation and the storage and cleaning of the compact mobile food operation.

(2) Transactions at a compact mobile food operation operated by a cottage food operator shall constitute "direct sales" for the purposes of paragraph (4) of subdivision (b) of Section 113758.

(3) Transactions at up to two compact mobile food operations operated by a cottage food operator shall not count toward the annual gross sales restrictions in Section 113758 applicable to cottage food operations if the governing body has authorized this action.

(4) Nonpotentially hazardous foods prepared in a cottage food operation may be served from a compact mobile food operation.

(5) Food prepared in a microenterprise home kitchen operation may be served from a compact mobile food operation operated by the microenterprise home kitchen operation permit holder.

(6) The meal and gross annual sales limitations in paragraphs (7) and (8) of subdivision (a) of Section 113825 do not apply to the sale of nonpotentially hazardous food or produce for up to two compact mobile food operations operated by the microenterprise home kitchen operation if the governing body has authorized this action.

(7) With the authorization of the governing body and if the enforcement agency determines that the operation does not pose a public health hazard, a permitted microenterprise home kitchen operation may serve as a commissary for up to two compact mobile food operations. The meal and gross annual sales limitations in paragraphs (7) and (8) of subdivision (a) of Section 113825 apply unless the governing body sets a higher meal and income limitation.

(8) The governing body of a local jurisdiction that permits microenterprise home kitchen operations pursuant to Section 114367, may set the meal and income limitations in paragraphs (7) and (8) of subdivision (a) of Section 113825 at a higher level than provided in those paragraphs for microenterprise home kitchen operations that operate in conjunction with a compact mobile food operation. Notwithstanding this subdivision, the

levels in effect, by statute or ordinance, as of January 1, 2023, shall remain in effect until changed by the local jurisdiction.

(b) (1) Existing permanent food facilities may be permitted to support the operations and storage of compact mobile food operations pursuant to the requirements of this section.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, upon an evaluation verifying that a permanent food facility satisfies subdivisions (a) to (f), inclusive, of Section 114326, an enforcement agency shall approve the use of a permitted permanent food facility to satisfy the requirements of Section 114295 for a compact mobile food operation.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, upon an evaluation verifying that the compact mobile food operation will be stored in a manner that protects the compact mobile food operation from contamination, an enforcement agency shall approve the storage of a compact mobile food operation in a permitted permanent food facility.

(4) Except when a determination is made by the enforcement agency that any nonconforming structural conditions pose a public health hazard, the enforcement agency may approve a facility to support operations of a compact mobile food operation.

(5) Plan submission shall not be required for an existing permanent food facility to support the operations of a compact mobile food operation when a determination is made by the local enforcement agency that the current operation and structural facilities of the permanent food facility can successfully provide the necessary functions of a commissary for a compact mobile food operation.

(6) An approved permanent food facility that will be used for cooling of food for a compact mobile food operation shall be approved by the enforcement agency for cooling.

(c) (1) Unless prohibited by local ordinance, an enforcement agency may allow the use of a private home for the storage of a compact mobile food operation if it determines, after an evaluation, that storage in the private home would not pose a public health hazard and that the compact mobile food operation will be stored in a manner that protects the compact mobile food operation from contamination.

(2) No more than two compact mobile food operations may be stored in a private home unless the enforcement agency finds that storage of more than two compact mobile food operations in a private home would not pose a public health hazard.

(3) The storage area within the home shall be designated and clearly identified upon approval and shall not be relocated without the review and approval of the local enforcement agency.

(4) Prepackaged nonpotentially hazardous food, whole fruits, and whole vegetables may be stored in the home prior to sale or preparation of that food in a compact mobile food operation.

(5) Food prepared in a private home shall not be used or offered for sale on a compact mobile food operation, unless it is a permitted cottage food operation or microenterprise home kitchen operation pursuant to subdivision (a). Violation of this paragraph may result in suspension or revocation of the permit to operate the compact mobile food operation.

(6) For purposes of determining compliance with this subdivision, a local enforcement agency may access, for inspection purposes, a private home where a compact mobile food operation is stored only if the representative has, on the basis of a consumer complaint, reason to suspect that the home is being used for food preparation, food storage, or unauthorized storage of utensils or other food facility equipment in violation of this subdivision.

(d) At the end of the operating day, potentially hazardous food that is prepared on or served from a compact mobile food operation shall be destroyed in a manner approved by the enforcement agency.

(e) For the purposes of this chapter, an endorsement by the local enforcement agency shall be a documented and recorded approval of compliance with applicable sections. An endorsement may include an inspection or evaluation, but shall not require a registration or permit.

(f) The enforcement agency may collect a fee for any permit, endorsement, inspection, or evaluation issued or conducted pursuant to this chapter in an amount that does not exceed the reasonable administrative costs of the enforcement agency.

114368.4.

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a compact mobile food operation that is approved for limited food preparation that prepares raw meat, raw poultry, or raw fish is subject to warewashing and handwashing facility requirements as outlined in Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 114294).

(b) (1) A compact mobile food operation may satisfy the requirements of Sections 114313 and 114314 by demonstrating access to a permitted auxiliary conveyance containing the necessary handwashing and warewashing sinks when operating at a site-specific location. The auxiliary conveyance may be operated by the same or a different permit holder. An enforcement agency may permit an auxiliary conveyance to serve multiple compact mobile food operations operating in close proximity to the auxiliary conveyance, as determined by the enforcement agency.

(2) If an auxiliary conveyance is not operated by the permit holder of the compact mobile food operation, the operator of the auxiliary conveyance shall obtain a permit from the enforcement agency to operate the auxiliary conveyance and service compact mobile food operations.

(3) The permit application for an auxiliary conveyance not operated by a compact mobile food operation shall include a site plan and shall be submitted to the enforcement agency at least two weeks prior to the operation of any food facility in conjunction with the auxiliary conveyance.

(4) The site plan for an auxiliary conveyance not operated by a compact mobile food operator shall show the proposed location and storage of the auxiliary conveyance, the proposed locations of any food facilities that will utilize the auxiliary conveyance, restrooms, refuse containers, potable water supply faucets, waste water disposal facilities, and all shared warewashing and handwashing facilities.

(c) A compact mobile food operation that is approved for limited food preparation that does not prepare raw meat, raw poultry, or raw fish shall do one of the following:

(1) Provide a three-compartment sink as described in subdivision (a) of Section 114313.

(2) Provide at least one two-compartment sink that complies with subdivision (e) of Section 114099.3.

(3) Provide a one-compartment sink with at least one integral metal drainboard, an adequate supply of spare preparation and serving utensils to replace those that become soiled or contaminated, and warewashing facilities that comply with subdivision (a) of Section 114313 in reasonable proximity to, and readily accessible for use by, food employees at all times.

(4) Maintain an adequate supply of spare preparation and serving utensils on the compact mobile food operation to ensure that utensils used for potentially hazardous foods are replaced with clean and sanitized utensils every four hours or as needed to replace those that become soiled or contaminated. A compact mobile food operation that complies with this paragraph is not required to provide a warewashing sink.

(d) A compact mobile food operation that is approved for limited food preparation that does not prepare raw meat, raw poultry, or raw fish shall provide an integral handwashing sink with at least five gallons of potable water to operate with a potable water tank with a capacity of at least five gallons for handwashing.

(e) An enforcement agency may permit a compact mobile food operation to operate with an integral water tank smaller than specified under subdivision (c) or (d) of Section 114217 if the enforcement agency finds that the compact mobile food operation is operating in an area and manner that would allow for replenishment of the water supply as needed during operations.

(f) A compact mobile food operation shall submit, to the enforcement agency, written operating procedures that include the process of filling potable water tanks if it will operate with a water tank with a capacity of less than five gallons specified in subdivisions (c) and (d) of Section 114217.

(g) A compact mobile food operation that does not prepare raw meat, raw poultry, or raw fish is exempt from any provision of this part requiring it be equipped with a water heater or otherwise be supplied with warm water.

114368.5.

(a) Upon receipt of complete, easily readable plans drawn to scale, and specifications satisfactory to the enforcement agency, an enforcement agency may preapprove a standard plan for a standardized or mass-produced individual unit intended to serve as a compact mobile food operation.

(b) A person proposing to operate a compact mobile food operation who has acquired an individual unit for which the construction of the compact mobile food operation has been built to approved plans shall not be required to submit plans for the individual unit, but instead shall be subject to a final inspection of the compact mobile food operation to

ensure that the individual unit and proposed method of operation conform to the standard plans preapproved pursuant to subdivision (a). The permit application for a compact mobile food operation utilizing a preapproved individual unit shall include a certification that the applicant has not substantially altered the individual units from the plans preapproved pursuant to subdivision (a). The enforcement agency may collect a fee in the final inspection in an amount that does not exceed the reasonable administrative costs to the enforcement agency.

(c) The repair of equipment or integral fixtures on a compact mobile food operation or the replacement of equipment and fixtures on a compact mobile food operation with substantially similar equipment or fixtures is not a remodel, and the repair or replacement of equipment or fixtures does not require the submission of plans to an enforcement agency.

(d) A local governing body may waive or reduce a fee for the permit, registration, or related services for an applicant seeking approval of a compact mobile food operation or related operations.

(e) All new and replacement food-related and utensil-related equipment for a compact mobile food operation shall be certified or classified for sanitation by an American National Standards Institute accredited certification program, or a certification program accredited by another accreditation body recognized by the enforcement agency as providing substantially similar food safety and operational standards. In the absence of an applicable certified sanitation standard, food-related and utensil-related equipment shall be evaluated for approval by the enforcement agency.

(f) All new and replacement electrical appliances for a compact mobile food operation shall meet applicable Underwriters Laboratories standards for electrical equipment as determined by an American National Standards Institute accredited certification program or a certification program accredited by another accreditation body recognized by the enforcement agency as providing substantially similar food safety and operational standards.

114368.6.

A compact mobile food operation is exempt from Section 113947.1 if the operator and any individual who is involved in the preparation, storage, or service of food for the compact mobile food operation has obtained a food handler card that meets the requirements of Section 113948.

114368.7.

A compact mobile food operation is exempt from the requirements of Section 114315 if the compact mobile food operation operates with multiple employees or operators and the compact mobile food operation may remain operable by a single individual so that employees or operators may alternate use of a restroom.

114368.8.

(a) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) of Section 114395, a violation of this part by an operator or employee of a compact mobile food operation is punishable only by an administrative fine.

(b) A violation of any provision of this part or regulation adopted pursuant to this part by an operator or employee of a compact mobile food operation or a sidewalk vendor shall not be punishable as an infraction or misdemeanor, and an operator or employee of a compact mobile food operation or a sidewalk vendor alleged to have violated any of those provisions is not subject to arrest except when independent grounds for that arrest exist under law.

(c) Except as provided in paragraph (d), each offense by an operator or employee of a compact mobile food operation or a sidewalk vendor may only be punished by a fine consistent with the following:

(1) A notice of violation detailing the violation, including the applicable provision of this part or regulation adopted pursuant to this part.

(2) An administrative fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100) for a second violation within one year of the first violation.

(3) An administrative fine not exceeding two hundred dollars (\$200) for a third violation within one year of the first violation.

(4) An administrative fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500) for each additional violation within one year of the first violation.

(d) If a compact mobile food operation is required to obtain a permit from the enforcement agency, operating without a permit may be punishable by a fine not to exceed three times the cost of the permit in lieu of the administrative fines referenced in subdivision (c). An enforcement agency shall not issue any fines in excess of the amounts allowable pursuant to subdivision (c) prior to January 1, 2024.

(e) (1) When assessing an administrative fine for a first-time offense, pursuant to this section, the hearing officer shall take into consideration the person's ability to pay the fine. The enforcement agency shall provide the person with notice of their right to request an ability-to-pay determination and shall make available instructions or other materials for requesting an ability-to-pay determination. The person may request an ability-to-pay determination at adjudication or while the judgment remains unpaid, including when a case is delinquent or has been referred to a comprehensive collection program.

(2) If the person meets the criteria described in subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 68632 of the Government Code, the enforcement agency shall accept, in full satisfaction, 20 percent of the administrative fine imposed pursuant to this section.

(3) The enforcement agency may waive the administrative fine or may offer an alternative disposition.