

Senate Bill 972 and Compact Mobile Food Operations

Informational Sheet

Introduction

- The **California Retail Food Code** (also known as the **CRFC** or **Cal Code**) is an excerpt of the California Health and Safety Food Code.
- Cal Code contains the structural, equipment, and operational requirements California retail food facilities must follow to operate.
- The purpose of Cal Code is to prevent foodborne illnesses and disease.

What is SB 972?

- Effective January 1, 2023, **Senate Bill (SB) 972** created a new category of Mobile Food Facilities called **Compact Mobile Food Operations (CMFOs)**.
- Chapter 11 in Cal Code defines CMFOs and outlines their requirements.
- San Bernardino County **Environmental Health Services (EHS)** enforces Cal Code in the county.
- EHS permits and regulates CMFOs.

SB 972 and Street Food Vendors

- Those who want to sell food on the street in San Bernardino County must follow Cal Code and local county/city regulations.
- Sidewalk vendors and food cart operators may apply for the new CMFO health permit.
- The goal of the new CMFO health permit category is to provide street food vendors with more options and opportunities to become permitted businesses.

CMFO Requirements and Limitations

- CMFOs must meet the requirements stated in **Chapter 10: Mobile Food Facilities** except if stated otherwise in **Chapter 11.7: Compact Mobile Food Operations** of Cal Code.



- All food and drinks must come from an approved source or from a facility permitted with EHS.
- A CMFO may sell **prepackaged food** and/or conduct **limited food preparation**.
- If a CMFO conducts limited food preparation, all food workers must obtain a San Bernardino County **Food Handler Card**.
- CMFO operators must obtain a San Bernardino County **health permit** from EHS.
 - If the CMFO is less than 25 square feet and sells prepackaged, nonpotentially hazardous food or drinks, a health permit is not required.
- A CMFO may be subject to a **plan check**.

For more information

- Visit the **Street Vendors** section of the EHS website at:
ehs.sbcounty.gov/street-vendors/
- Review the **Cal Code** at:
cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/Pages/FD BHSCodes.aspx

For more information, please contact Environmental Health Services.

(800) 442-2283
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