



International Personnel Certification Summit

The 21st Century Solution to Workforce Competitiveness



Food Handler Certification “The Indiana Experience”

Presented by

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Food Handler Certification Law

- **The Good News:**
 - **Enacted by Indiana Legislature in 2001**
- **The Bad News:**
 - **Enacted by Indiana Legislature in 2001**

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Statutes Opened and Changed

- **Certain parts were not acceptable**
- **State's "clean up" bill**
- **Legislature combined both of our bills**
 - **Forced the state to accept a few undesirable pieces of the bill**
 - **Kept our clean-up bill alive**
 - **Learned how to compromise!**

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Food Handler Certification Law

- **Created Indiana Code 16-42-5.2**
- **Required the State to adopt a new rule to administer certification and set monetary penalties for noncompliance**
- **Rule became effective in June of 2003**



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New Provisions of Law

- **Preempts any local jurisdiction's certification rule/ordinance**
- **One certified person per establishment**
- **Need not be present, but are responsible for food safety for all hours of operation**

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Adopted a Third Party Certification

- **Legislature followed our recommendation to accept the Conference for Food Protection Standards as a basis**
- **The state rule further adopted the ANSI standards once they became effective**

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Industry Acceptance:

- **Mixed, but too early to determine:**
 - **Another government mandate**
 - **Industry driven**
 - **Easier to accept**
 - **Many complaints and few compliments!**

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Third Party Certification

- **Eliminates the need for the state approval or accreditation for:**
 - **Testing organizations**
 - **Examinations**
 - **Training organizations**

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Additional Benefits for 3rd Party Cert.

■ National Reciprocity

- Certification accepted in any jurisdiction
- Improves marketability of certified person
- Ensures legitimacy of the certification for the regulatory authority

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Final Thoughts:

- **Wanted industry buy-in before we proceeded**
- **Recent media blitz**
 - **Mostly newspapers**
 - **Plan to intensify in September**
- **Consumer acceptance**

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Questions?



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