



## Hood River County Health Department, Environmental Health Office

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# SB: 631 is effective on 1/1/14

## New Licensing Requirements for Government Entities

The 2013 Oregon Legislature passed Senate Bill 631 to require government entities that serve food to the public to be licensed by the local health department. This new provision in ORS 624 is effective January 1, 2014. Senate Bill 631 was passed in response to a Norovirus outbreak at the Oregon Zoo, which is run by Metro, a regional government body in the Portland Metropolitan Area. The Legislature enacted SB 631 to address the fact that the Zoo and other government entities were exempt from the food service license and inspection requirements.

### References:

**ORS 624.320(1)** A person may not operate a vending machine, warehouse, commissary or mobile unit without first procuring a license...

**ORS 624.010(8)** "Person" means a person as defined in ORS 174.100, a public body as defined in ORS 174.109, the Oregon Health and Science University or the Oregon State Bar.

**ORS 624.010(9)** "Restaurant"...means an establishment:

- (a) Where food or drink is prepared for consumption by the public;
- (b) Where the public obtains food or drink so prepared in for or quantity consumable then and there, whether or not it is consumed within the confines of the premises where prepared; or
- (c) That prepares food or drink in consumable form for service outside the premises where prepared.

*Keep in mind that the exact statutory references may not match since the updated version of ORS 624 is not available yet.*

### How to Get a License:

First, give our office a call (541-387-6885); we will help you determine whether you will need a license or not.

Once you are sure that you will need a license to operate, application information is available on our Food, Pool & Lodging Licensing website by clicking: '[here](#)'.

Or type in the address below:

[http://www.co.hood-river.or.us/index.asp?Type=B\\_BASIC&SEC={9185ADA9-653A-42C4-95DF-FEFEB9A70AB0}](http://www.co.hood-river.or.us/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={9185ADA9-653A-42C4-95DF-FEFEB9A70AB0})

