

# Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950

## Title 40 – Public Health and Safety

### Chapter 4 – Food and Drugs

#### Part I. Adulteration, Substitution, Misbranding, or False Advertising

*[Editor's Note: A new Part I, consisting of Sections 601 through 642, was created by Act 142 of the 1936 Legislature. Subsequent amendments are noted herein.]*

##### §601. Title

This Part may be cited as the "State Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law."

##### §602. Definition of terms

As used in this Part, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this Section:

- (1) "Advertisement" includes all representations of fact or opinion disseminated to the public in any manner or by any means other than by the labeling.
- (2) "Cosmetic" includes all substances and preparations intended for cleansing, altering the appearance of, or promoting the attractiveness of a person. The term includes soaps only when medicinal or curative qualities are claimed by the use thereof.
- (3) "Department" means the Department of Health and "secretary" means the secretary thereof.  
*(Added by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*
- (4) "Device" includes all devices intended for use in diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of disease in man or beast, or intended to affect the structure or any function of the body.
- (5) "Drug" includes all substances and preparations recognized in the official compendium, as herein defined. It includes all substances and preparations intended for use in the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of disease in man or beast, and all substances and preparations, other than food and cosmetics, intended to affect the structure or any function of the body.
- (6) "Food" includes all substances and preparations used for or entering into the composition of food, drink, confectionery, chewing gum, or condiment for man or beast.
- (7) "Label" means the principal display or displays of written, printed, or graphic matter upon any food, drug, device, or cosmetic, or the immediate container thereof, or upon the outside container or wrapper, if any, of the retail package of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic.
- (8) "Labeling" includes all labels and other written, printed, and graphic matter, in any form whatsoever, accompanying any food, drug, device, or cosmetic.
- (9) "Medical opinion" means the opinion, within their respective fields, of the practitioners of any branch of the medical profession, the practice of which is licensed by law in this state.
- (10) "Medical profession" means the legalized profession of the healing art.
- (11) "Official compendium" means the United States Pharmacopeia, Homeopathic Pharmacopeia of the United States, National Formulary, or any supplement of any of them, official at the time any drug, to which the provisions thereof relate, is introduced into commerce.
- (12) "Scientific opinion" means the opinion, within their respective fields, of competent pharmacologists, physiologists, or toxicologists.

##### §603. Liability of persons

When construing and enforcing the provisions of this Part, unless otherwise provided, the act or omission of any officer, employee, or agent acting for or employed by any person, within the scope of employment or office, shall in every case be considered the act or omission of such person, as well as that of the officer, employee, or agent.

Whenever a corporation or association violates any of the provisions of this Part, unless otherwise provided, the violation shall also be considered a violation by the individual directors, officers or agents of the corporation or association who personally ordered or did any of the acts constituting the violation, in whole or in part.

##### §604. Regulations

The authority to promulgate regulations for the efficient enforcement of this Part is vested in the secretary of the Department of Health.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§605. Examinations, investigations, and hearings conducted by board or agent**

The department, or any designated officer or employee thereof, may conduct examinations and investigations for purposes of this Part.

Hearings authorized or required by this Part shall be conducted by the department or the officer or employee designated by it for the purpose.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§606. Court review of regulations and administrative actions; injunctions**

On the petition of any interested person, the district courts may:

- (1) Restrain by injunction, temporary or permanent, the enforcement by an officer, representative, or employee of the department of any regulation promulgated by it under the provisions of this Part if it is shown that the regulation is unreasonable, arbitrary, or capricious, or not in accordance with the facts or law, and that the petitioner may suffer substantial damage by reason of its enforcement; and
- (2) Grant appropriate injunctive relief from any act or omission of any officer, representative, or employee of the department in the administration of this Part, if it has been shown that the act or omission is unreasonable, arbitrary or capricious, or not in accordance with the facts or law and that petitioner may suffer substantial damage thereby.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§607. Adulterated food**

A. A food is considered adulterated if it has been found to be such by any department of the United States government, or:

- (1) If it contains any poisonous or deleterious substances, added or otherwise, which may render it dangerous to health; or any added poisonous or deleterious substance which is prohibited by [R.S. 40:611](#) or which is in excess of the limits of tolerance prescribed by regulations of the department.  
*(Paragraph 1 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*
- (2) If it consists in whole or in part of any filthy, putrid, or decomposed substance, or if it is otherwise unfit for food.
- (3) If it has been prepared, packed, or held under unsanitary conditions whereby it may have become contaminated with filth or whereby it may have been rendered injurious to health.
- (4) If it is the product of a diseased animal or of an animal which has died otherwise than by slaughter.
- (5) If its container is composed of any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render the contents injurious to health.
- (6) If any valuable constituent has been in whole or in part abstracted therefrom.
- (7) If any substance has been substituted wholly or in part therefor.
- (8) If damage or inferiority has been concealed in any manner.
- (9) If any substance has been added thereto or mixed or packed therewith so as to increase its bulk or weight, reduce its quality or strength, or create a deceptive appearance.
- (10) If it contains a coal-tar color other than one from a batch that has been certified in accordance with regulations of the department.  
*(Paragraph 10 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*
- (11) If it is confectionery or ice cream and it contains any alcohol, resinous glaze, or nonnutritive substance, except harmless coloring, harmless resinous glaze, harmless flavoring, natural gum, and pectin; provided, that this Paragraph shall not apply to any confectionery by reason of its containing less than ten percent by volume of alcohol or to any chewing gum by reason of its containing harmless nonnutritive masticatory substance.  
*(Paragraph 11 amended by Act 654 of 1988 Legislature, effective August 1, 1988)*

B. The department shall promulgate sanitary regulations for implementing the provisions of Paragraphs (2) and (3) of this Section.

*(Subsection B amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

C. For the first charge and finding thereunder the person shall be given a notice and hearing and a notice to correct the unsanitary conditions or the unsanitary food complained of. This notice and order does not prohibit the seizure of food dangerous to health, as provided in this Part.

D. For purposes of this Section:

- (1) Anyone who sells confectionery that contains more than one-half of one percent alcohol rendered unfit for beverage purposes to a person who is under the legal age for purchasing alcoholic beverages shall be fined not more than three hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.
- (2) Any confectionery manufactured in this state that contains more than one-half of one percent alcohol rendered unfit for beverage purposes shall bear a label containing the statement: "Sale of this product to persons under the legal age for purchasing alcoholic beverages is unlawful." A person who violates the provisions of this Paragraph shall be fined not more than three hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.
- (3) No confectionery containing more than one-half of one percent alcohol rendered unfit for beverage purposes shall be sold in this state unless the product bears a label that meets the requirements of Paragraph (2) of this Subsection or a sign containing the statement: "Sale of confectionery containing more than one-half of one percent alcohol to persons under the legal age for purchasing alcoholic beverages is unlawful" is displayed at the place where the product is sold or offered for sale. A person who violates the provisions of this Paragraph shall be fined not more than three hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

*(Subsection D added by Act 654 of 1988 Legislature, effective August 1, 1988)*

### **§608. Misbranded food**

A food is considered to be misbranded if it has been found to be such by any department of the United States government, or:

- (1) It is labeling is false or misleading in any particular.
- (2) If it is offered for sale under the name of another food.
- (3) If it is an imitation of another food and its label fails to bear, in type of uniform size and prominence, the word "imitation" and, immediately thereafter, the name of the food imitated.
- (4) If its container is so made, formed, or filled as to mislead the purchaser.
- (5) If it is in package form and does not bear a label containing (a) the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, or seller; and (b) an accurate statement of the quantity of the contents in terms of weight, measure, or numerical count. For the purposes of this Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, reasonable variations shall be permitted, and exemptions as to small packages shall be established by regulations of the department.  
*(Paragraph 5 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*
- (6) If any word, statement, or other information required on the label under any provision of this Part is not prominently placed thereon in such a manner as to be easily seen and in such terms as to be readily understood by purchasers and users of the articles under customary conditions of purchase and use. Due consideration shall be given to the size of the package.
- (7) If it purports to be or is represented as a food for which a definition and standard of identity has been prescribed by regulations of the department and (a) it does not conform to the definition and standard, (b) its label does not bear the name of the food prescribed in the definition and standard, or (c) when the definition and standard permits optional ingredients other than spices, flavors, and coloring, its label does not bear the common names of the optional ingredients present in it, if those names are required by the regulations.  
*(Paragraph 7 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*
- (8) If it purports to be or is represented as a food for which a standard of quality or fill of container has been prescribed by regulations of the department and its quality or fill falls below that standard and its label fails to bear a statement, in the manner specified in the regulations, showing that it falls below the standard.  
*(Paragraph 8 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*
- (9) If it is not subject to the provisions of Paragraph (7) of this Section and its label fails to bear (a) the common or usual name of the food, if any, and (b) in case it is fabricated from two or more ingredients, the common or usual name of each ingredient. Spices, flavors, coloring, other than those sold as such, may be designated as spices, flavors, and colorings without naming each. To the extent that compliance with the requirements of Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph is impracticable because of variations in ingredients usual to good manufacturing or packing practice or is impracticable for any other reason, exemptions shall be established by regulations promulgated by the department. Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph does not apply to any proprietary food the ingredients of which have been fully and correctly disclosed to the department if compliance with the Subparagraph would give competitors information they could not otherwise obtain.

The department shall establish regulations for implementing the provisions of this Paragraph and publish from time to time the list of ingredients required herein to be declared on the label. However,

these lists shall be within the class of ingredients required to be declared on the label under this Paragraph.

*(Paragraph 9 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

- (10) If it purports to be or is represented as being for special dietary uses, such as by infants or invalids or for other special nutritional requirements, and its label fails to bear statements concerning the vitamin, mineral, and other dietary properties which fully inform the purchaser as to its nutritional value.

The department shall establish regulations for implementing the provisions of this Paragraph, including administrative regulations covering vitamin, mineral, and other dietary properties. These regulations shall be established in cooperation with the United States Public Health Service, with a view particularly to the work of that service connected with pellagra and other dietary diseases and the feeding of children, so that the inspection to determine correct labeling shall fully conform to the work of the public health service, as far as that work goes.

*(Paragraph 10 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

- (11) If it bears or contains any artificial flavor, artificial color, or chemical preservative and it fails to bear a label stating that fact.
- (12) If bottled water to be sold in the state for human consumption, is not labeled to indicate the source of the water, the methods used to treat the contents to reduce or eliminate impurities, and the chemical names and concentrations of any preservatives or additives.

*(Paragraph 12 amended by Act 608 of 1982 Legislature, effective August 1, 1982)*

### **§608.1. Mislabeling of honey**

- A. It is unlawful for any person to package any product and label the product as honey or to use the word honey in any prominent location on the label of such product or to sell or offer for sale any product which is labeled as honey or which contains a label with the word honey prominently displayed thereon, unless such product is pure honey manufactured by honeybees.
- B. Any person violating the provisions of this Section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not less than fifty dollars and not more than five hundred dollars and each such violation shall constitute a separate offense.

*(Subsection B amended by Act 206 of 2018 Legislature, effective August 1, 2018)*

*(Section added by Act 143 of 1974 Legislature, effective August 1, 1974)*

### **§608.2. Unlawful practices in sale of kosher food; penalty**

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to:
- (1) Sell or expose for sale with intent to defraud in any place where food products are sold for consumption either on or off the premises, any article of food falsely represented as kosher, either by direct statements, orally or in writing, or by the display of the word kosher in English or Hebrew letters, or by the display of any sign or mark in simulation of such word, or by display of any insignia, six pointed star, or any mark which might reasonably be calculated to deceive or lead a reasonable person to believe that a representation is being made that the food exposed for sale is kosher, or prepared in accordance with orthodox Hebrew religious requirements; or
  - (2) Sell or expose for sale with intent to defraud any meat or meat preparations and falsely represent the same to be kosher, with intent to defraud, whether such meat or meat preparations be raw or prepared for human consumption, or as having been prepared under and a product or products sanctioned by the orthodox Hebrew religious requirements; or
  - (3) Falsely represent with intent to defraud any food product or the contents of any package or container to be so constituted and prepared, by having or permitting to be inscribed thereon the word kosher in any language.
- B. The word kosher as used in Subsection A of this Section shall mean in conformity with orthodox Jewish religious requirements.
- C. Any person violating the provisions of this Section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars and each such violation shall constitute a separate offense.

*(Section added by Act 722 of 1977 Legislature, effective August 1, 1977)*

### **§608.3. Labeling of organic food**

*(Section added by Act 825 of 1989 Legislature; repealed by Act 222 of 2012 Legislature)*

### **§609. Exemption from labeling requirements**

The department may promulgate regulations exempting from any labeling requirement of this Part small open containers of fresh fruits and fresh vegetables and also food which is, in accordance with the practice of the trade, processed, labeled, or repacked in substantial quantities at establishments other than those where originally processed or packed, on condition that the food is in conformity with the provisions of this Part upon removal from the processing, labeling, or repacking establishment.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§610. Definitions and standards for food**

The department may promulgate regulations fixing and establishing for any food a definition and standard of identity and a reasonable standard of quality or fill of container. However, no standard of quality shall be established for fresh fruit and fresh vegetables and no standard of identity for fresh apples and fresh pears. In any regulation pertaining to fill of container the department shall give due consideration to the natural shrinkage in storage and in transit of fresh natural food and to the need for the necessary packing and protective material.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§611. Tolerance for poisonous ingredients in food and certification of coal-tar colors for food**

- A. No poisonous or deleterious substance shall be added to any food unless it is required in the production of the food or cannot be avoided by good manufacturing practice. When such a substance is required or cannot be avoided, the department may, for the protection of public health, promulgate regulations limiting the quantity therein or thereon.

In determining the quantity of added substance to be tolerated in or on different articles of food, the department shall take into account the extent to which the use of this substance is required or cannot be avoided in the production of each such article and the other ways in which the consumer may be affected by the same or other poisonous or deleterious substances.

- B. The department may promulgate regulations for the certification of coal-tar colors which are harmless and suitable for use in food.

This certificate shall contain the physiological factors tested and give notice that only those factors have been tested. No person shall use this certificate in the label or advertising of any food.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§612. Contaminated food; permit control**

Whenever the department finds, after investigation, that the distribution of any class of food may, by reason of contamination with microorganisms during the manufacture, processing, or packing thereof, is injurious to health, and such injurious nature cannot be adequately determined after the articles have entered state commerce, it may then, and in that case only, promulgate regulations governing the conditions of manufacture, processing, or packing for such temporary periods of time as may be necessary to protect the public health. Thereafter, no manufacturer, processor, or packer of that class of articles shall introduce into state commerce any such food unless he holds an unsuspended, valid permit issued by the department as provided by the regulations.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§613. Regulations governing issuance and renewal of permit**

The department shall make regulations prescribing the time for which the permits are issued and governing the issuance and renewal thereof.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§614. Suspension of permit; reinstatement**

Upon notice to the permittee, the secretary of the department may suspend immediately any permit issued under authority of [R.S. 40:612](#) if it is found that any of the conditions of the permit have been violated. The holder of the permit so suspended may apply at any time for its reinstatement. After a prompt hearing and an inspection of the establishment, the department shall immediately reinstate the permit if it is found that adequate measures have been taken to comply with and maintain the conditions of the permit, as originally issued or as amended.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§615. Inspection of permittee's establishment; denial of access**

Any officer or employee duly designated by the department has access to any factory or establishment, the operator of which holds a permit from the department, for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the conditions of the permit

are being complied with. Denial of access for this inspection is grounds for suspension of the permit until the access is freely given by the operator.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§616. Adulterated drugs**

A drug is considered adulterated if it has been found to be such by any department of the United States government, or:

- (1) If it consists in whole or in part of any filthy, putrid, or decomposed substance.
- (2) If it has been prepared, packed, or held under unsanitary conditions whereby it may have been contaminated with filth or whereby it may have been rendered injurious to health.
- (3) If its container is composed of any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health.
- (4) If it contains, for purposes of coloring only, a coal-tar color other than one from a batch that has been certified in accordance with department regulations.

*(Paragraph 4 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

- (5) If its name is recognized in the official compendium, or if it purports to be a drug the name of which is so recognized, and it differs from the standard of strength, quality, or purity as determined by the tests or methods of assay set forth in the official compendium or in the regulations of the department, unless its standard of strength, quality or purity is plainly stated on its label.

However, no such department regulation shall be adopted unless tests or methods of assay have not been prescribed in the official compendium or the tests or methods of assay prescribed therein are insufficient and, after due notice by the department of that fact, the official body in charge of the revision of the compendium has not corrected the deficiency.

*(Paragraph 5 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

- (6) If it is not subject to the provisions of Paragraph (5) of this Section and its identity or strength differs from or its purity or quality falls below that which it purports or is represented to possess.
- (7) If any substance has been mixed or packed therewith so as to reduce its quality or strength or substituted wholly or in part therefor.

### **§617. Misbranded drugs and devices**

A. A drug or device is considered misbranded if it has been found to be such by any department of the United States government, or:

- (1) If its labeling is false or misleading in any particular. Any representation concerning any effect of a drug or device is considered false for purposes of this Paragraph if the representation is not supported by demonstrable scientific facts or substantial and reliable medical or scientific opinion.
- (2) If it is dangerous to health under the conditions of use prescribed in the labeling or advertising thereof.
- (3) If it is in package form and it does not bear a label containing: (a) the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, seller, or distributor, and (b) an accurate statement of the quantity of the contents in terms of weight, measure, or numerical count. Under Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph reasonable variations shall be permitted and exemptions as to small packages shall be established by regulations prescribed by the department where compliance with the provisions would be impracticable.

*(Paragraph 3 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

- (3.1) If it is a prescription drug bearing the following words "Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription", and (a) the manufacturer, packager, seller, or distributor of any prescription drug sold, delivered, or offered for sale in the state of Louisiana after January 1, 1976 does not have printed on the label on the immediate container of the drug the name and place of business of the manufacturer and, if different, the name and place of business of the packer or distributor of the final dosage form of the drug; and (b) the manufacturer, packager, seller, or distributor does not have printed on the label on the final dosage form an accurate statement of the quantity of the contents in terms of weight, measure, or numerical count. Under Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph reasonable variations shall be permitted and exemption as to small packages shall be established by regulations prescribed by the department where compliance with the provisions would be impracticable. Wholesalers or jobbers who sell prescription drugs only to retailers or institutions shall be exempt from the provisions of this Paragraph. However, nothing contained in the provisions of this Paragraph shall affect the labeling requirements of a prescription label placed on a container by a pharmacist in the process of dispensing a prescription drug.

*(Paragraph 3.1 added by Act 524 of 1975 Legislature, effective July 1, 1976; amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

- (3.2) If it contains any quantity of amyl nitrite, isopentyl nitrite or any of their isomers, or butyl nitrite,

n-butyl nitrite, isobutyl nitrite, or any of their isomers, and is not labeled "Caution: Louisiana Law prohibits dispensing without a prescription" and its sale is not restricted to the prescription of a physician, except that amyl nitrite may be labeled in accordance with labeling requirements of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Law.

*(Paragraph 3.2 added by Act 140 of 1978 Legislature, effective August 1, 1978)*

- (4) If any information required on the label under any provision of this Part is not prominently placed thereon in such a manner as to be easily seen and in such terms as to be readily understood by purchasers and users of the articles under customary conditions of purchase and use. Due consideration shall be given to the size of the package.  
*(Paragraph 4 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*
- (5) If it is for use by man and contains any quantity of any of the following narcotic or hypnotic substances and, except when dispensed on the written order of a member of the medical profession, its label fails to bear the name and quantity or proportion of the substance or derivative and in juxtaposition therewith the statement "Warning – May be Habit Forming": Alpha eucaïne, barbituric acid, beta eucaïne, bromal, cannabis, carbromal, chloral, coca, cocaine, codeine, heroin, marihuana, morphine, opium, paraldehyde, peyote, sulphomethane, or any substance chemically derived therefrom, except derivatives of coca leaves which do not contain cocaine, ecgonine (or substances from which cocaine or ecgonine may be synthesized or made) or any other narcotic or hypnotic substance designated as habit forming by regulations of the department, unless the derivative is clearly not habit forming.  
*(Paragraph 5 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*
- (6) If it is a drug and is not designated solely by a name recognized by an official compendium or if its label has been disapproved by the United States government or the department.  
*(Paragraph 6 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*
- (7) If its name is recognized in an official compendium, or if it purports to be a drug the name of which is so recognized, and it is not packaged and labeled as prescribed therein.
- (8) If it is a drug liable to deterioration and is not packaged in the form or manner required by department regulations for the protection of public health or its label does not bear a statement of those precautions.

No such regulation shall be established for any drug recognized in the official compendium until the department shall have informed the appropriate body charged with the revision of the compendium of the need for the packaging or labeling requirements and that body shall failed within a reasonable time to prescribe those requirements.

*(Paragraph 8 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

- (9) If it is a drug and its container is so made, formed, or filled as to mislead the purchaser.
  - (10) If it is a drug and it is an imitation of another drug.
  - (11) If it is a drug and it is offered for sale under the name of another drug.
- B. When construing and enforcing the provisions of this Part with respect to labeling and advertisements, the term "antiseptic" has the same meaning as the word "germicide", except, however, in the case of a drug purporting to be, or represented as, an antiseptic for inhibitory use as a wet dressing, ointment, dusting powder, or for such other use as involves prolonged contact with the body.

### **§617.1. Distribution of imitation controlled dangerous substances to a person under eighteen**

*(Section added by Act 1059 of 1992 Legislature; repealed by Act 100 of 2011 Legislature)*

### **§618. Drugs recognized in compendiums**

Whenever a drug is recognized in both the United States Pharmacopoeia and the Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States, it shall be subject to the requirement of the United States Pharmacopoeia for purposes of this Part unless it is labeled and offered for sale as homeopathic drug, in which case it shall be subject to the provisions of the Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States and not to those of the United States Pharmacopoeia.

### **§619. Certain drugs and devices excepted from labeling and packaging provisions**

The department shall promulgate regulations exempting from any labeling or packaging requirement of this Part drugs and devices which are, in accordance with the practice of the trade, processed, labeled, or repacked in substantial quantities at establishments other than those where originally processed or packed, on condition that these drugs and devices are in conformity with the provisions of this Part, upon removal from the processing, labeling, or repacking establishment.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§620. Certification of coal-tar colors for drugs**

The department may promulgate regulations for the certification of coal-tar colors which are harmless and suitable for use in drugs for purposes of coloring only.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§621. Adulterated cosmetics**

A cosmetic is considered adulterated if it has been found to be such by any department of the United States government, or:

- (1) If it bears or contains any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health under such conditions of use as are customary or usual.
- (2) If it consists in whole or in part of any filthy, putrid, or decomposed substance.
- (3) If it has been prepared, packed, or held under unsanitary conditions whereby it may have become contaminated with filth or whereby it may have been rendered injurious to health.
- (4) If its container is composed of any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health.
- (5) If it contains a coal-tar color other than one from a batch that has been certified in accordance with regulations of the department.

*(Paragraph 5 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§622. Misbranded cosmetics**

A cosmetic is considered misbranded if it has been found to be such by any department of the United States government, or:

- (1) If its labeling is false or misleading in any particular or if it is injurious to health under the conditions of use prescribed in the labeling or advertising thereof.
- (2) If it is in package form and it does not bear a label containing: (a) the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, seller, or distributor; and (b) an accurate statement of the quantity of the contents in terms of weight, measure, or numerical count. However, under Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph reasonable variations shall be permitted and exemption as to small packages shall be established by regulations prescribed by the department where compliance with that provision would be impracticable.  
*(Paragraph 2 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*
- (3) If any word, statement, or other information required on the label under any provision of this Part is not prominently placed thereon in such a manner as to be easily seen and in such terms as to be readily understood by the purchasers and users of the articles under customary conditions of purchase and use. Due consideration shall be given to the size of the package.

### **§623. Certain cosmetics excepted from labeling requirements**

The department may promulgate regulations excepting from any labeling requirements of this Part cosmetics which are, in accordance with the practice of the trade, processed, labeled, or repacked in substantial quantities at establishments other than those where originally processed or packed, on condition that these cosmetics are in conformity with the provisions of this Part upon removal from the processing, labeling, or repacking establishment.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§624. Certification of coal-tar colors for cosmetics**

The department may promulgate regulations for the certification of coal-tar colors which are harmless and suitable for use in cosmetics.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§625. False advertisement**

- A. An advertisement of a food, drug, device, or cosmetic is false if it is false or misleading in any particular regarding the food, drug, device, or cosmetic. Any representation concerning any effect of a drug or device is false under this Subsection if it is not supported by demonstrable scientific facts or substantial and reliable medical or scientific opinion.  
*(Subsection A amended by Act 206 of 2018 Legislature, effective August 1, 2018)*
- B. Except as provided below, the advertisement of a drug or device representing it to have any therapeutic effect in the treatment of Bright's disease, cancer, tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, venereal disease, heart and vascular diseases, or any other diseases for which no known therapeutic effect has been fully established is false. No advertisement not in violation of Subsection A of this Section shall be considered false under this Subsection, if it is disseminated only to members of the medical and pharmaceutical professions or



appears only in the scientific periodicals of these professions, or if it is disseminated only for the purpose of public health education by persons not commercially interested, directly or indirectly, the purchase of food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics.

*(Subsection B amended by Act 206 of 2018 Legislature, effective August 1, 2018)*

- C. Except as provided in [R.S. 626](#), it is unlawful for any person to disseminate false advertisement by any means for the purposes of inducing, directly or indirectly, the purchase of food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics.

### **§626. Exceptions as to false advertising by agencies**

Publishers, radio broadcast licensees, television broadcast licensees, advertising agencies, and other agencies or mediums for dissemination of advertising do not violate the provisions of [R.S. 40:625\(C\)](#) by the dissemination of any false advertisement when the dissemination is caused by the manufacturer, packer, distributor, or seller who resides in Louisiana. However, the manufacturer, packer, distributor, or seller is amenable to prosecution and penalties provided for the violation of that Subsection. No publisher, radio broadcast licensee, television broadcast licensee, advertising agency, or other agency or medium for the dissemination of advertising shall willfully refuse, on reasonable request of an officer or employee duly designated by the department to furnish to the officer or employee the name and post office address of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, or seller, residing in Louisiana, who caused him to disseminate any such advertisement.

*(Amended by Act 86 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§627. Registration of certain products**

- A. Except as provided by Subsection E of this Section, the department may require all manufacturers, packers, or proprietors of processed foods, proprietary or patent medicines, prophylactic devices, and cosmetics, in package form, to register each separate and distinct product annually with the department and to supply it with a sample of each such product upon request.

*(Subsection A amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978; Act 393 of 2015 Legislature, effective August 1, 2015)*

- B. The submission of a catalog and specimens of labels shall be required at the time of application for registration of products produced, packaged, and prepared in compliance with the requirements of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, which will constitute satisfactory compliance for registration of the products. With respect to all other products, submission of a catalog and specimens of labels shall be required at the time of application for registration, but registration will not become effective until examination and approval of the label or product by the department. This approval shall be by written notification to the manufacturer, packer, or processor.

*(Subsection B amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

- C. No manufacturer, packer, or proprietor shall sell any product which he has failed to register in conformity with this Section. Such failure also subjects the product to seizure and condemnation as provided by [R.S. 40:632 through R.S. 40:634](#).
- D. The department shall assess each manufacturer, packer, or proprietor a penalty of ten dollars for failure to register each separate and distinct product annually as provided in this Section. The penalty assessed shall be in addition to the examination and investigation charges assessed as provided in [R.S. 40:628\(B\)](#). Each failure to register a separate and distinct product shall constitute a separate violation. However, no manufacturer, packer, or proprietor shall be assessed more than one hundred dollars in any calendar year. The department shall promulgate rules and regulations to provide for assessment and collection of the penalty provided in this Subsection.

*(Subsection D added by Act 10 of 1<sup>st</sup> Extraordinary Session of 1983 Legislature, effective January 19, 1983; amended by Act 344 of 1985 Legislature, effective February 1, 1986)*

- E. This Section shall not apply to alcoholic beverages. For purposes of this Section, "alcoholic beverages" has the same meaning as assigned in [R.S. 26:2](#) and [241](#).

*(Subsection E added by Act 393 of 2015 Legislature, effective August 1, 2015)*

### **§628. Examination and investigation fee; food and drug control fees**

- A. All inspection, investigation, and examination fees collected by the department under the provisions of this Part shall be devoted to the expenses of inspections, examinations, and investigations conducted under the authority of this Part and for the maintenance and enforcement of the provisions of this Part.

*(Subsection A amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

- B. The department shall charge and collect from the manufacturers, packers, or proprietors of the products referred to in [R.S. 40:627](#) an annual examination and investigation charge of not more than twenty-seven

dollars for any one separate and distinct product registered, up to a maximum of two hundred seventy dollars annually from each manufacturer, packer, or proprietor. Manufacturers, packers, or proprietors of soft drinks and nonalcoholic beverages, except nonalcoholic fruit juices, and manufacturers, packers, or proprietors of product offered for sale or sold at retail only in their own establishments are exempt from the payment of examination and investigation charges here authorized.

*(Subsection B amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978; Act 344 of 1985 Legislature, effective February 1, 1986)*

- C. The department shall charge and collect an annual food and drug control permit fee from manufacturers, packers, and processors of foods, drugs, and cosmetics. The fee shall not apply to any plant required to have a commercial seafood permit pursuant to [R.S. 40:31.35](#). This Section shall not apply to meat packers, meat processors, and meat warehouses, or agricultural commodities or any combination thereof regulated by the state Department of Agriculture and Forestry. The fee shall be for each separate establishment for which a permit is required based on the annual sales of such establishment according to the following schedule:

Annual sales	Annual fee
Under \$500,000	\$ 175.00
\$500,001 – \$1,000,000	475.00
\$1,000,001 – \$2,500,000	775.00
\$2,500,001 – \$5,000,000	1,075.00
Over \$5,000,000	1,375.00

*(Subsection C added by Act 125 of 1<sup>st</sup> Extraordinary Session of 2000 Legislature, effective July 1, 2000)*

- D. The department shall charge and collect an annual food and drug control fee of three hundred dollars from warehouses and distributors of foods, drugs, and cosmetics. The fee shall be for each separate establishment for which a permit is required.

*(Subsection D added by Act 125 of 1<sup>st</sup> Extraordinary Session of 2000 Legislature, effective July 1, 2000)*

### **§629. Records of interstate shipments**

- A. For the purposes of enforcing the provisions of this Part, carriers engaged in interstate commerce and persons receiving food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics in interstate commerce shall, upon the request in the manner set out below of an officer or employee duly designated by the department, permit the officer or employee to have access to and to copy all records showing the movement in interstate commerce of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic, and the quantity, shipper, and consignee thereof.  
*(Subsection A amended by Act 86 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*
- B. The request provided for in this Section shall be accompanied by a definite statement in writing specifying the nature or kind of food, drug, device, or cosmetic to which it relates.
- C. Evidence obtained under this Section shall not be used in criminal prosecution of the person from whom obtained.

### **§630. Carriers in interstate commerce; excepted from Part**

Carriers engaged in interstate commerce are not subject to the provisions of this Part, other than [R.S. 40:629](#), by reason of their receipt, carriage, or delivery of food, drugs, devices, cosmetics, or advertising matter in the usual course of business as carriers.

### **§631. Factory inspections**

- A. In order to prevent commerce in adulterated or misbranded food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics and to safeguard the public health and prevent deceit upon the purchasing public, officers or employees duly designated by the department, after making reasonable request, may enter any factory, warehouse, or other establishment in which food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics are manufactured, processed, packed, or held for storage or shipment in commerce or are held after such shipment, or any vehicle being used to transport food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics in commerce and inspect the factory, warehouse, establishment, or vehicle and all pertinent equipment, finished and unfinished materials, containers, and labeling therein.  
*(Subsection A amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*
- B. No owner, operator, or custodian of such a place shall refuse this reasonable request, under pain of the penalties provided in this Part.

### **§632. Causes for seizure and condemnation of food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics**

Any article of food and any drug, device, or cosmetic that is adulterated, misbranded, or unregistered or which has been manufactured, processed, or packed in a factory or establishment, the operator of which did not, at the time of

manufacture, processing, or packing, hold an unsuspended valid permit, if so required under [R.S. 40:612](#), is subject to seizure and condemnation by the department or by any officer or employee it designates for that purpose.  
(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)

### **§633. Seizure; procedure; prohibition on sale or disposal of article**

- A. Whenever a duly authorized officer or employee of the department finds or has probable cause to believe that cause for the seizure of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic, as set out in [R.S. 40:632](#) exists, he shall affix to the article a tag, stamp, or other appropriate marking, giving notice that the article is, or is suspected of being subject to seizure under the provisions of [R.S. 40:632](#) and that it has been detained and seized by the department. He shall also warn all persons not to remove or dispose of the article by sale or otherwise, until permission of the department or of the court of the jurisdiction in which the article is detained or seized is given.

(Subsection A amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)

- B. It is unlawful for any person to remove or dispose of the detained or seized article by sale or otherwise without permission of the department or of the court in such cases.

(Subsection A amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)

### **§634. Condemnation and sale, or release**

- A. When any article detained or seized under [R.S. 40:633](#) has been found by the department to be subject to seizure and condemnation under [R.S. 40:632](#), the department shall petition a court for an order of condemnation or sale, as the court may direct. The proceeds of the sale minus the legal costs and charges shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the general fund.
- B. Upon the payment of the costs of the condemnation proceeding and upon the execution and delivery of a surety bond to the effect that the goods shall not be sold or otherwise disposed of contrary to the provisions of this Part, the department or court may order that the goods be delivered to the owner thereof instead of being condemned or sold.
- C. If the department finds that any article seized under the provision of [R.S. 40:633](#) was not subject to seizure under that Section, the department or the designated officer or employee shall remove the tag or marking.

(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978; Act 206 of 2018 Legislature, effective August 1, 2018)

### **§635. Condemnation or destruction of perishables in certain cases**

Whenever the department or its duly authorized officer or employee finds in any factory, establishment, structure, or vehicle of transportation any meat, seafood, poultry, vegetables, fruit, or other perishable articles which are unsound or contain any filthy, decomposed, or putrid substance or that may be poisonous or deleterious to health or otherwise unsafe for human consumption, the officer or employee of the department designated by it shall immediately condemn or destroy it or in any other manner render it unconsumable as human food.

(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)

### **§636. Other prohibited acts**

The following acts and the causing thereof are prohibited:

- (1) The introduction or delivery for introduction into commerce of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic that is adulterated or misbranded.
- (2) The adulteration or misbranding, of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic in commerce.
- (3) The receipt in commerce of any food, drug, device, or cosmetic that is adulterated or misbranded and the delivery or proffered delivery thereof in the original unbroken package for pay or otherwise.
- (4) The forging, counterfeiting, simulating, or falsely representing or, without proper authority, using any mark, stamp, tag, label, or other identification device authorized or required by regulations promulgated under the provisions of this Part.
- (5) The possession in any place where sales or service is made to the public of any food, drug, device or cosmetic that is adulterated or misbranded.

(Paragraph 5 added by Act 482 of 1952 Legislature, effective August 1, 1952)

- (6) The using by any person to his own advantage, or the revealing, other than to the department, its officers or employees, or to the courts when relevant in the trial of any case under this Part, any information acquired under authority of [R.S. 40:612](#) through [R.S. 40:615](#) or [R.S. 40:631](#) concerning any method or process which, as a trade secret, is entitled to protection.

(Paragraph 6 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)

### **§637. Procedure for reporting violations of Part**

- A. Before reporting any violations of this Part to any district attorney for institution of criminal proceedings thereunder, the department may, in accordance with regulations prescribed by it, afford appropriate notice and opportunity for hearing to interested persons upon the question of such violations. The report to the district attorney when such hearings are held shall be accompanied by findings of the appropriate officers and employees.

*(Subsection A amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978; Act 346 of 1985 Legislature, effective July 9, 1985)*

- B. The department need not report for prosecution minor violations of this Part when the purposes of the Part can best be accomplished by a suitable written notice or warning.

*(Subsection B amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§638. Duties of district attorney**

Each district attorney to whom the department reports any violation for institution of criminal or injunction proceedings under this Part, or to whom any health, food, or drug officer of the state or political subdivision thereof, presents evidence satisfactory to the district attorney, of any such violation, shall institute appropriate proceedings in the proper court without delay.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

### **§639. Penalties**

Except as provided in [R.S. 40:971.3](#), whoever violates any provision of this Part shall be fined, for the first offense, not more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both. For the second or subsequent offense, he shall be fined not more than three thousand dollars or imprisoned for not more than two years, or both. But any person who violates the provisions of [R.S. 40:625\(C\)](#) shall only be fined not more than one thousand dollars for each violation if the violation does not involve gross deception or imminent danger to health, and is established by opinion evidence only.

*(Amended by Act 108 of 2017 Legislature, effective August 1, 2017)*

### **§640. Dealers excepted from penalty in certain cases**

No dealer is subject to the penalties of [R.S. 40:639](#):

- (1) For having received any article of food, drug, device, or cosmetic and in good faith sold it as received unless he refuses to furnish on request of an officer or employee duly designated by the department the name and address of the person from whom he purchased or received the article and all documents pertaining to the delivery of the article to him, or

*(Paragraph 1 amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

- (2) If he established a guaranty or undertaking signed by the person residing in Louisiana from whom he received in good faith the article of food, drug, device, or cosmetic, or advertising copy thereof to the effect that the designated article is not adulterated or misbranded within the meaning of this Part and that the copy is not false. To afford protection, this guaranty or undertaking shall contain the name and address of the person furnishing it. This person shall be amendable to the prosecution and penalties which would attach in due course to the dealer under the provisions of this Part.

*(Paragraph 2 amended by Act 316 of 1950 Legislature, effective August 1, 1950)*

### **§641. Injunction proceedings**

- A. In order to avoid multiplicity of criminal prosecutions, the district courts may, for cause, restrain any person by temporary or permanent injunction from the repetitious introduction or causing to be introduced into commerce of any adulterated, misbranded, or unregistered food, drug, device, or cosmetic; or from the dissemination or causing to be disseminated of a false advertisement by any means for the purpose of inducing, directly or indirectly, the purchase of food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics in commerce.
- B. In these injunction proceedings it is not necessary to show an intent on the part of the person enjoined to continue the offense.
- C. Violation of any injunction issued pursuant to this Section shall be summarily tried and punished by the court as a contempt. The contempt proceedings may be instituted by order of the court or by the filing of an information by the district attorney and process of the court for the arrest of the violator may be served at any place in the state.

- D. No person violates any injunction issued pursuant to this Section by reason of the dissemination, subsequent to the injunction, of the false advertisement which was the basis of the injunction, if the dissemination was beyond the control of the person.

*(Amended by Act 206 of the 2018 Legislature, effective August 1, 2018)*

**§642. Reports by department**

- A. The department shall, from time to time, have reports published summarizing all judgments, decrees, and court orders which have been rendered under this Part, including the nature of the charge and the disposition thereof.
- B. The department may also disseminate information regarding food, drugs, devices, or cosmetics in cases involving imminent danger to health or gross deception of the consumer.
- C. Nothing in this Section prohibits the department from collecting, reporting, and illustrating the results of its investigations.

*(Amended by Act 786 of 1978 Legislature, effective July 17, 1978)*

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(end of Part I of Chapter 4)