Egg Recall Underscores Importance of Federal Food Safety Legislation

The recent salmonella outbreak and egg recall has renewed interest in food safety legislation that still is awaiting a vote in the Senate. The FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (S. 510) would give the FDA additional regulatory tools to help prevent foodborne disease outbreaks. Food safety advocates are arguing that the bill could have helped prevent the salmonella outbreak that sickened over 1,500 people and led to the recall of 550 million eggs.

The House of Representatives passed their version of the food safety legislation in July of 2009. Both the House and the Senate bills would require food facilities to maintain food safety plans and would enable the FDA to inspect these facilities more frequently. Both bills would also give the FDA power to order mandatory recalls if food contamination occurs or is suspected, a power it currently does not have.

The University of Nebraska. Since then, over 300 copies of the guidance document have been distributed to local boards of health in multiple states. The document provides guidance to enable board of health members to develop and sustain environmental monitoring programs, investigate developing policy related to CAFOs, and create partnerships with other local and state agencies and public officials to improve the health of their local communities. For more information on how to receive your copy of the publication, please contact the NALBOH office.

NALBOH’s Latest Publication a Success

NALBOH unveiled its latest publication, Understanding Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations and Their Impact on Communities, at the 18th NALBOH Annual Conference in Omaha, Nebraska. Since then, over 300 copies of the guidance document have been distributed to local boards of health in multiple states. The document provides guidance to enable board of health members to develop and sustain environmental monitoring programs, investigate developing policy related to CAFOs, and create partnerships with other local and state agencies and public officials to improve the health of their local communities. For more information on how to receive your copy of the publication, please contact the NALBOH office.