

State of Utah

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Department of Agriculture and Food

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TRAVIS WALLER Director, Regulatory Services

February 15, 2024

Online Sales of Bedding, Upholstered Furniture and Quilted Clothing

Dear Stakeholder,

In April of 2023, the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF), Division of Regulatory Services, informed stakeholders of its intention to enhance surveillance and apply enforcement of online sales of products subject to Title 4, Chapter 10 of the Utah Code and R70-101.

After careful consideration and a comprehensive review of our policies, we have determined that the existing online labeling rule requires further evaluation and refinement to better align with evolving industry standards and the needs of our stakeholders. In fact, it was discovered that a specific industry sector lacks the knowledge and controls necessary to confidently provide consumers with an online law label that accurately reflects the materials being supplied and utilized in the manufacturing of their products. In light of this, we have repealed the rule temporarily, effective February 2, 2024, to allow for a thorough assessment and necessary adjustments.

During this period of repeal, it is essential to note that the temporary absence of the online labeling rule does not change or omit the requirements set forth regarding quilted clothing textile labels online prior or during purchase. However, it is important to emphasize that regulatory actions will not be active during this time for online labeling while we allow the industry a period of time to comply with these requirements.

Throughout this period of repeal, we remain committed to maintaining open lines of communication with stakeholders and industry experts to gather valuable insights and perspectives. This collaborative approach is crucial to ensuring that when the rule is reintroduced, it reflects the most current and relevant considerations.

We understand that this temporary absence of the rule may impact certain processes and procedures within your organization. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation during this transitional period. Our paramount goal is to establish clear and consistent regulations in the online labeling space, with an unwavering commitment to working collaboratively to ensure a balanced and effective solution that serves to protect customers. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or require further clarification. The safeguarding of consumers is our top priority.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and understanding. We look forward to working together to enhance the effectiveness of our online labeling rules for the benefit of the entire industry.

Please feel free to send your questions or comments to <u>udaf-beddingcomments@utah.gov</u>.

Respectfully,

Travis Waller

Travis Waller Director, Regulatory Services Utah Department of Agriculture and Food