



Issue Submission Form

Food Code Section/Reference 05210	Date Submitted 12/13/2024	Issue Number: 24-01
		Date Received: 12/16/2024
Contact Information		
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Issues must be submitted at least 30 days before the next meeting in order to be considered.		
Issue Information		
Issue/Concern Description One important factor in encouraging the usage of handwashing sinks is to provide warm water for handwashing without a lengthy wait time. This is addressed by Section 404.3 of the 2021 Washington State Energy Code which limits the length of uncirculated hot water piping runouts to public lavatories. While this measure is intended primarily to conserve energy used for water heating, implementing this requirement into the Retail Food Code would ensure hot water is delivered at the fixture within a few seconds. Hand washing sinks in food service establishments are not considered by all jurisdictions to be equivalent to 'public lavatories' as defined by State plumbing and energy codes and therefore this section of the energy code is often not adhered to when designing plumbing systems serving handwashing sinks. Referencing this energy code section directly within the Food Code would alleviate any confusion surrounding fixture classification and applicability.		
Recommended Solution (if any) Provide a new subsection within Section 05210 of the Retail Food Code noting that compliance with Section C404.3 of the State Energy Code is required for handwashing sinks in food service establishments.		
Other Comments The 2021 WA State Commercial Energy Code is available for reference at this link: https://sbcc.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2024-01/2021_WSEC_C_2ndEd_012824.pdf The actual code language is too lengthy to include on this form.		

Contact the Food Safety Advisory Council Coordinator at 360-236-3330 or food.safety@doh.wa.gov with questions.

Submit this form by **email**:

Open the online Word form and complete it, save the form to your computer, and then attach the form to an email addressed to food.safety@doh.wa.gov.