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BUREAU OF HEALTH AND NUTRITION SERVICES AND
CHILD/FAMILY/SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS
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TO: National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program Sponsors

FROM: Charlene Russell-Tucker, Chief
Bureau of Health and Nutrition Services and Child/Family/School Partnerships

DATE: November 22, 2006

SUBJECT: Operational Memorandum #06-07
USDA Proposed Rule on Fluid Milk Substitutions in the School Nutrition Programs

Attached is the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Proposed Rule for *Fluid Milk Substitutions in the School Nutrition Programs*. It reflects amendments made by Section 102 of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 to the Richard B. Russell National School Act regarding substitutes for fluid milk in the National School Lunch Program. This rule would establish nutritional standards for nondairy beverage alternatives to fluid milk, as well as requirements for substitutions for fluid milk for nondisabled students with medical or special dietary needs. It would allow the parent or legal guardian of a child with medical or special dietary needs to request a fluid milk substitute. In addition, it would allow schools to select acceptable fluid milk substitutes that meet the nutritional standards established in this proposed rule, and would continue to make school food authorities responsible for substitution expenses that exceed the Federal reimbursement.

USDA invites interested persons to submit written comments on this interim rule no later than **January 8, 2007**. Refer to the attached document for mailing information.

Questions pertaining to the following areas may be directed to:

- Teri Dandeneau at teri.dandeneau@ct.gov or 860-807-2079
- RoseAnna Holliday at roseanna.holliday@ct.gov or 860-807-2064
- Lorraine Sternal at lorraine.sternal@ct.gov or 860-807-2008
- Bob Zwack at robert.zwack@ct.gov or 860-807-2081

CRT:tdd

Important: This is a numbered Operational Memorandum that contains important program information. Please read carefully and retain in a binder for your future reference. Operational Memoranda are also posted on the Child Nutrition website: <http://www.state.ct.us/sde/deps/nutrition/SchoolNutrIndex.htm>