

**REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS****SECTION A****Date:** **March 14, 2022****Agency Submitting Proposed Regulation:** **Department of Consumer Protection****Proposed Regulation Title:** **Uniform Open Dating for Foods**

Prior to or concomitant with the posting of a notice pursuant to C.G.S. § 4-168a, as amended by Public Act 16-32, each agency shall prepare a regulatory flexibility analysis. Agencies must complete this document and upload it into the eRegulations System prior to posting the Notice of Intent described in C.G.S. § 4-168(a)(1). This document will automatically publish to [eregulations.ct.gov](http://eregulations.ct.gov) at the time the filing agency posts the Notice of Intent.

Reminder: Pursuant to C.G.S. § 4-168a(c), prior to the adoption of any proposed regulation that may have an adverse impact on small businesses, each agency shall notify the Department of Economic and Community Development and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce of its intent to adopt the proposed regulation.

**Scope and Objectives of the Proposed Regulation (mandatory for all filers):**

This regulation prescribes optional uniform date labeling that must be used whenever a packager elects to use date labeling on perishable and non-perishable foods. Open dating is intended for use and understanding by both distributors and consumers when judging food qualities whenever a packager voluntarily elects to use date labeling.

Please check the appropriate box:

- The regulatory action **will not have** an effect on small businesses. *If you check this box, do not complete SECTION B.*
- The regulatory action will have an effect on small businesses, but will not have an adverse effect on such small businesses. *If you check this box, complete SECTION B.*
- The regulatory action may have an adverse effect on small businesses, but no alternatives considered would be both as effective in achieving the purpose of the action and less burdensome to potentially effected small business. *Note: alternatives considered may include those listed in C.G.S. § 4-168a(b)(6). If you check this box, complete SECTION B.*
- The regulatory action will have an adverse effect on small businesses that cannot be minimized in a manner that is consistent with public health, safety and welfare. *If you check this box, complete SECTION B.*