Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency

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Healthy People, Healthy Communities

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Safe Body Art Act Program

The Safe Body Art Act (Assembly Bill 300) became law on January 1, 2012. The new law regulates body art practiced at salons, mobile vehicles and temporary booths at community events. Regulated practices include tattooing, body piercing, permanent cosmetics and branding. A body art facility will have to obtain a permit from the Environmental Health Division (EHD). Body art practitioners will have to register with the Environmental Health Division. Permits and registrations will be required to operate in Mendocino County.

Environmental Health will start inspecting body art facilities to verify safe body art procedures are practiced and proper maintenance of body art facilities is performed.

The Safe Body Art Act (SBA), General Information:

- The SBA took effect on July 1, 2012. The new law requires practitioners to comply with specified requirements, including, among other things, providing information for clients and questionnaires, practitioner vaccination against Hepatitis B, bloodborne pathogen training, and sanitation.
- The SBA requires a person performing body art to register annually with EHD and to operate the body art facility in a safe and sanitary manner. The SBA also requires the owner of a body art facility to obtain an annual health permit from EHD.
- The SBA will also regulate the performance of body art in vehicles, temporary booths, and at body art events. These facilities will have to obtain a permit from EHD. A person, business or organization sponsoring an event which includes body art will have to obtain a community event permit from EHD.
- SBA requires annual inspections of body art facilities to be conducted by EHD to verify compliance with the law.

The Safe Body Art Act can be viewed online in its entirety at:

http://leginfo.ca.gov/pub/11-12/bill/asm/ab_0251-0300/ab_300_bill_20111009_chaptered.pdf

If there are questions about the body art please contact Environmental Health Division, Consumer Protection Program at 707-463-4466.

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