

Question 23 (8)

Explain how government legislation and policies affect the Australian food industry.

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Policies are strategies put in by government to improve all aspects of living while legislation ^{are} laws ~~which~~ formed by government to outline what can/cannot be done under certain circumstances. However unlike policies, legislations are enforced, meaning if it is not followed, persecution may occur. For example the Healthy Canteen Policy outlines that canteen should sell health foods however if a particular canteen doesn't, he/she will not be fined or arrested. Federal, local and state legislation such as Food Standards Code, NSW Food Act and Code for the after construction and alteration of food premises, must be followed. These legislations ensure food safety across the whole food industry, from primary production to point of sale. For example, Food Standards Code 2000 covers labelling laws, chemical additives, food safety procedures, and are responsible for all food recall procedures. NSW Food Act 2003 ensures that food is safe for consumption and prevents businesses from misconduct. Local governments, known as "enforcing agencies" ~~and~~ have had surveillance officers who investigate ~~and~~ complaints into food premises, issue improvement notices, inspect registered business names, and work with the NSW Food Authority to ensure labelling, and other legal requirements are met. Therefore govt. legislation and policies are crucial in maintaining safe food production within the Australian food industry. [Code for construction and alteration of food premises ensure safe food production in the food manufacturing, and services and catering sector.] 11-