



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ADVISES CONSUMERS TO
AVOID EATING FRESH OR FROZEN CLAMS, OYSTERS OR
MUSSELS IMPORTED FROM KOREA**

HONOLULU – The Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) is advising consumers not to eat fresh or frozen shellfish (clams, oysters or mussels) that come from Korea.

The federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) reports that all fresh and frozen shellfish, and many products made from these shellfish, imported from Korea to the United States may be contaminated and unsafe for human consumption.

Effective immediately, FDA has removed all certified dealers in the Korean Shellfish Sanitation Program from its Interstate Certified Shellfish Shippers List. This action stops the shipment of fresh and frozen clams, mussels and oysters from Korea to the United States. States have been advised to treat Korean shellfish products as being from an unapproved source and therefore should not be commercially served, distributed or sold.

There have been no recent reported illnesses in Hawai'i related to clams, mussels and oysters imported from Korea. DOH is advising consumers to avoid these products as a precautionary measure, and is notifying local distributors, retailers and restaurants statewide to remove all Korean imported fresh and frozen shellfish from sale.

Consumers who have already purchased fresh or frozen clams, mussels or oysters imported from Korea should discard them or return them to the place of purchase.

Only fresh or frozen shellfish and products made from these shellfish imported from Korea are subject to this advisory.

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