March 21, 2025

Dear Mr. Sands:

Thank you for your March 7 letter to State Surgeon General, Dr. Joseph Ladapo, regarding the Florida Department of Health's role in enforcing laws, codes, or regulations involving businesses requiring customers to wear shoes while inside the business.

The Florida Department of Health does not hold any statutory authority in this matter and the Department is not aware of any Florida law currently in place that requires patrons to wear shoes while on the property of the business. It appears that the decision to impose a requirement like this is entirely up to the business owner; they may choose to enforce any dress code in their establishment, as long as it is not discriminatory.

Please note, this is not intended to be interpreted as legal guidance. The information listed above is readily available online.

Sincerely,

Victoria Parsons

Victoria Parsons
Correspondence Manager