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The Food Safety Modernization Act of 2011

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1.		Animated Open	
2.	 <p>Antonio Neves the.News</p>	<p>On Camera Open: Hi, I'm Antonio Neves for the Dot News. This is the Eastern Market on Capitol Hill in Washington DC. Washingtonians and members of Congress have been buying food here for more than 130 years. And Congress has a lot to say about what goes on here. It recently passed legislation that sets policy and gives new powers to the Food and Drug Administration.</p>	00:06
3.		<p>Narration: The food we eat comes from virtually every country around the globe... tomatoes from Mexico, beef from Brazil, seafood from Asia, fruit from Spain and Portugal. And from across the United States.</p>	00:29
4.	 <p>Stephanie Yao FDA Press Officer</p>	<p>SOT: Stephanie Yao <i>The FDA regulates 80% of the food supply, so the beverages you drink some of the snacks you eat, the fresh produce you eat. The FDA plays a role in regulating that and making sure it's safe clean wholesome and properly labeled.</i></p>	00:44

<p>5.</p>		<p>Narration: The Food Safety Modernization Act – signed into law this January- requires food processors to keep records and report contamination. And the FDA can now order food recalls – in the past they were voluntary – and the measure expands the agency’s power to inspect food production facilities. It also has new tools to trace the origin of tainted food.</p>	<p>00:59</p>
<p>6.</p>		<p>Jeffery Brown: (Newshour 08/23/2010) The nationwide outbreak of salmonella poisoning from contaminated eggs, including at least 1,300 cases, began in May. Investigators have linked the disease outbreak to two massive farms in Iowa.</p>	<p>01:23</p>
<p>7.</p>		<p>Narration: Salmonella is one of many types of food borne bacteria that can cause vomiting and flu-like symptoms. Food can also carry viruses, parasites, and in some cases toxins. The Center for Disease Control estimates that each year one out of every six Americans will get sick from a food borne disease. That’s 48 million people. Of those, close to 130 thousand will have to go to the hospital.</p>	<p>01:37</p>
<p>8.</p>		<p>Narration: The government consulted with many interested groups about the new regulations...one compromise was to exempt farms and other small businesses that sell directly to consumers or grocery stores from some of the regulations.</p>	<p>02:06</p>

9.		<p>SOT: Stephanie Yao <i>This law actually wouldn't have been able to come to fruition without participation from the food industry, from consumers, and from Congress. As we are implementing this law we're gonna be continuing to work with them, by holding meetings, having an online update system for the implementation process and also having in depth discussions on key issues.</i></p>	02:20
10.		<p>Narration: The Center for Food Safety is one of many non-governmental organizations that analyzes food safety. Senior Policy Analyst Jaydee Hanson believes the Food Safety Act didn't go far enough.</p>	02:42
11.		<p>SOT: Jaydee Hanson <i>It could have required more inspections than it does. Right now in the first five years that the Act is going in effect the FDA is required to inspect the most problematic plants, once in five years. You know if my wife said "Clean the kitchen once in 5 years" everybody would take that as strange.</i></p>	02:55
12.		<p>Narration: Jaydee Hanson also believes the law should have contained protection for whistle blowers – workers who report unsafe practices.</p>	03:24
13.		<p>SOT: Jaydee Hanson <i>Most of the times when a plant has problems it's because somebody in the plant knows they're shipping out contaminated merchandise and tells the FDA or tells the local Ag department "Hey we got a problem you don't know about." So we would like those folks to be really well protected because that's the first line</i></p>	03:32

14.		<p>Narration: Maame Nyarko sees the importance of food safety every day in her cooking class at Alexandria, Virginia's TC Williams High School.</p>	03:57
15.	 <p>Maame Nyarko Student T.C. Williams High School</p>	<p>SOT: Maame Nyarko <i>Anyone can learn to cook, really you can. What you need to do is I guess listen, that's the key part. You just listen and follow directions and everything will work out.</i></p>	04:07
16.		<p>Narration: The class is taught by Chef Craig Scheuerman.</p>	04:17
17.	 <p>Craig Scheuerman Chef T.C. Williams High School</p>	<p>SOT: Craig Scheuerman <i>A clean kitchen is just making sure that things are sanitary. If you work with chicken you want to make sure that that's clean and sanitized. You can either use a bleach solution or most kitchen cleaners wiping that down before you do your next step and you just don't contaminate your lettuce and tomatoes or different things like that.</i></p>	04:20
18.		<p>Narration: Chef Scheuerman teaches that everyone should understand about food safety – from basic things like washing your hands frequently – to keeping a clean work surface – storing food at the right temperature and following the instructions on food labels to heat meats to the right temperature. He's also picky about how he shops.</p>	04:37

19.		<p>SOT: Craig Scheuerman: <i>When I go out or when people go out, I would look at the freshness of the produce, to me that is one of the big keys.// For meats and poultry they do have expiration dates on the packages and I do pay attention to that.</i></p>	04:56
20.		<p>Narration: Chef Scheuerman believes in buying locally. Alexandria has three farmer's markets selling produce from family run farms. There are more than 5-thousand farmer's markets across the country. That interest in food has Jaydee Hanson optimistic about the future.</p>	05:08
21.		<p>SOT: Jaydee Hanson: <i>People are asking for healthier food. They're asking for fresher food. They're asking for food grown more locally // So the folks are demanding it and I think we're gonna get our government regulations lined up better with what people are asking for</i></p>	05:25
22.		<p>Narration: I'm Antonio Neves for the Dot News</p>	05:42