



STATE OF IDAHO

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BUREAU OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES
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April 21, 1986

TO: All Store Owners and Managers
FROM: Dale Hurd, Metrologist/Field Supervisor
Bureau of Weights & Measures
SUBJECT: Weighing Bulk Items in Containers

Gross weighing bulk products in containers that cause the total price charged to be in error by more than 1 cent is prohibited under Idaho Code 71-115, Section 11, and HB-44 G.S.5.5. Scales at the checkout counter, deli, bakery, or any scale in the store, must have tare capabilities if bulk weighing in containers is to be permitted.

The following example will help clarify tare:

Tare	= plastic or paper sack, plastic or cardboard plate, or container of any material
Gross weight	= container plus product
Net weight	= weight of product only

EXAMPLE:

Tare weight	= .01 lb
Price/pound	= \$1.45
Cost of tare	= .0145 or 1 cent
Tare weight	= .01 lb
Price/pound	= \$6.98
Cost of tare	= .0698 or rounded to 7 cents

If the checkout system will not take off tare from a package, then a scale must be available that will take tare before going through the checkout cash register.

The practice of gross weighing bulk products in containers will be monitored by our field officers and they will take the necessary steps to correct it.

This directive will be effective July 1, 1986.