House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 92 SESSION: 2011 Regular Session

TOPIC: Modifies Exemptions to Food, Beverage, and Lodging Establishment Licensure

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Overview

Under current law, the Minnesota Department of Health licenses and inspects food service entities under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 157 (including, but not limited to, restaurants; bars; hotels; resorts; caterers; and cafeterias) and enforces the food code, under Minnesota Rules, chapter 4626. There are a number of specific exemptions listed under current law and this act modifies and adds to that list.

Section

- **School concession stand.** Amends § 157.15, subd. 12b. States that the current defined term "school concession stand" does not include a school kitchen or cafeteria.
- **Exemptions.** Amends § 157.22. Modifies a current exemption for buildings constructed or used for religious worship by adding that certain listed activities conducted by a faith-based organization in a building constructed or used for religious worship or education are exempt from the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 157.

Modifies the current exemption for fraternal or patriotic organizations by specifying that sportsman organizations are included in the exemption and that the exemption applies to events held in the building or on the grounds of the organization.

Exempts school concession stands that serve commercially prepared, nonpotentially hazardous foods.

Adds exemptions for certain listed activities conducted in a building or on the grounds of a faith-based organization provided that certain conditions are met. Provides that this exception does not apply at the State Fair, at county fairs, or to faith-based organizations

that choose to be licensed.

Adds an exemption for food service events conducted following a disaster to feed disaster relief staff and volunteers, provided the food is commercially prepared, nonpotentially hazardous food.