

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 118

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Authors: Urdahl and others

Subject: Personal Responsibility in Food Consumption Act

Analyst: Sam Rankin, 651-296-5047

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Overview

House File 118 seeks to protect food producers, processors, retailers, and others in the food industry from civil lawsuits based on a claim that the long-term purchase or consumption of food or nonalcoholic beverages caused weight gain or obesity in a person or group of individuals.

Section

- 1** **Personal responsibility in food consumption act.** A new section of law creates immunity from civil liability for claims of weight gain or obesity brought against food producers, processors, and marketers.

Subd. 1. Title. The act may be cited as the personal responsibility in food consumption act..

Subd. 2. Definitions. The terms "long-term consumption" and "party" are defined.

Subd. 3. Immunity from civil liability. Food and beverage producers, growers, manufacturers, packers, distributors, carriers, holders, marketers, or sellers are not subject to civil liability based on a claim of weight gain, obesity, or health conditions associated with weight gain or obesity resulting from long-term consumption of the food or beverage by individuals or groups of individuals.

Subd. 4. Actions permitted. Allows actions to be brought for a material violation of (1) an adulteration or misbranding requirement in state or federal law, or (2) a state or

Section

federal law on manufacturing, marketing, distribution, advertising, labeling, or sale of food, if the violation was knowing and willful.

- 2** **Effective date.** Section 1 is effective the day following final enactment and applies to actions commenced on or after that date.