HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 118 DATE: February 17, 2005

Version: First engrossment

Authors: Urdahl and others

Subject: Personal Responsibility in Food Consumption Act

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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

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