## House Research

# = Bill Summary :

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**Version:** As amended by the author's amendment (H0908A1)

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**Subject:** Sales tax exemptions for restaurants and food trucks

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## **Overview**

Provides sales tax exemptions for:

- capital equipment used by restaurants and food trucks used in making prepared food;
- food and beverages provided for free to customers; and
- food and nonalcoholic beverages purchased for and served to restaurant employees.

Effective for sales and purchases made after June 30, 2017.

### **Section**

- Capital equipment. Explicitly includes machinery and equipment used by restaurants and mobile food units (food trucks) to prepare and serve food in the capital equipment exemption. Currently restaurant equipment is explicitly left out of this exemption. Effective for sales and purchases made after June 30, 2017.
- Complementary meals and beverages. Exempts meals and alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages provided free to the customer from the sales tax. Currently the restaurant owes use tax and the 2.5 percent gross receipts tax on the value of the liquor in complimentary alcoholic beverages; and use tax on the price of any taxable item that goes into serving other complimentary food and beverages (i.e. napkins, straws, prepared food purchased from another entity). No use tax is currently owed on non-taxable food ingredients. Effective for sales and purchases made after June 30, 2017.

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### **Section**

3 Employee food and drink. Exempts prepared food and drink purchased and served to employees. Currently employees pay sales tax on the discounted price of any meals or drinks they purchase and free meals and drinks supplies to employees are treated the same as free meals and drinks served to customers. Effective for sales and purchases made after June 30, 2017.