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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2710**

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**State of Washington**

**57th Legislature**

**2002 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Representatives Van Loven, Veloria, Esser, Tokuda, Santos, Cooper, Morell and Nixon)

Read first time 02/08/2002. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to the halal food consumer protection act; adding  
2 a new chapter to Title 69 RCW; prescribing penalties; and providing an  
3 effective date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The definitions in this section apply  
6 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

7 (1) "Dealer" means any person that advertises, represents, or holds  
8 itself out as selling, preparing, or maintaining food as halal  
9 including, but not limited to, manufacturers, slaughterhouses,  
10 wholesalers, stores, restaurants, hotels, catering facilities, butcher  
11 shops, summer camps, bakeries, delicatessens, supermarkets, grocery  
12 stores, nursing homes, freezer dealers, and food plan companies.

13 (2) "Food product" includes any article other than drugs, whether  
14 in raw or prepared form, liquid or solid, or packaged or unpackaged,  
15 and which is used for human consumption.

16 (3) "Halal" means a food product which has been prepared,  
17 processed, manufactured, maintained, and sold in strict compliance with  
18 the laws and customs of the Islamic religion.

1 (4) "Person" includes individuals, partnerships, corporations, and  
2 associations.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) No dealer may knowingly sell or offer  
4 for sale any food product represented as "halal" or "halal style" when  
5 that dealer knows or should know that the food product is not halal and  
6 when the representation is likely to cause a prospective purchaser to  
7 believe that it is halal. This representation can be made in writing,  
8 or by display of a sign, mark, insignia, or simulation.

9 (2) A dealer that sells "halal" or "halal style" food products,  
10 where this food product represents more than fifty percent of the  
11 person's inventory, must:

12 (a) Label all "nonhalal" food products as "nonhalal" by display of  
13 appropriate signage or labeling so that the consumer can clearly  
14 differentiate between food products that are "halal" and "nonhalal";  
15 and

16 (b) Maintain and make available, upon request, a written copy of  
17 ingredients and processes, used in the preparation of halal food  
18 products. This provision only applies if the information is readily  
19 available from the producer, wholesaler, or distributor of the halal  
20 food product.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A violation of this chapter constitutes a  
22 violation of the consumer protection act, chapter 19.86 RCW.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A dealer who violates any provision of this  
24 chapter is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This chapter may be known and cited as the  
26 halal food consumer protection act.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act constitute  
28 a new chapter in Title 69 RCW.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 3 and 4 of this act take effect  
30 December 1, 2002.

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