

HB 2167-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Finds that Washington consumers have a right to accurate, accessible information that will assist them in making educated food purchases.

Finds that consumers have an interest in knowing the benefits and potential risks to their health from the products they consume.

Finds that consumers value knowing when and where food has been packaged and when technologies such as genetic engineering, irradiation, and modified atmosphere packaging have been applied to the foods that are offered for retail sale.

Declares an intent to increase the disclosure of food information to consumers by enhancing existing requirements governing the labeling of certain perishable food products.

Provides that, whenever the director of the department of agriculture finds that a person has committed a violation of this act, the director may impose upon and collect from the violator a civil penalty not exceeding one thousand dollars per violation per day. Each violation is a separate and distinct offense. Imposition of the civil penalty is subject to a hearing under chapter 34.05 RCW.