Bill Summary 1st Session of the 58th Legislature

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Bill Analysis

SB 545 creates the Mobile Food Vendor Act. The measure creates a separate license for mobile food vendors under the State Department of Health. The measure requires each applicant to submit information pertaining his or her name, primary residence, employment history, the nature of the products offered, and whether the applicant has been denied a license. Additionally, the measure requires an applicant to submit records pertaining to the applicant's driving history, insurance, a listing of all owned vehicles, and a copy of any additional licenses or permits required by this state for certain commercial vehicles. Mobile Food Vendors must possess a driver license to operate the mobile food vending vehicle. The measure also requires any receiving business assets from a mobile food vendor to apply for the vendor license prior to operating a mobile food vendor in the state.

The Department, or a local authority partner, must conduct a health inspection of the applicant's proposed mobile vending site within 30 days of receiving the application. The Department may establish a schedule of fees not exceeding \$200.00 for a license and renewal. Licenses shall be issued on an annual basis. The measure outlines acceptable locations wherein the vendor may operate and prohibits the vendor from operating in a manner or location which interferes with the free passage of pedestrians or vehicles along any street, sidewalk or parkway. The measure directs the Department to establish rules governing the operation of mobile vendors.

The measure creates 3 classifications for mobile food vendors: Mobile Food Type I Vendors dispense prepackaged food that constitute a low risk, Mobile Food Type II Vendors dispense food that requires limited handling and preparation, and Mobile Food Type III Vendors prepare and cook food from the vehicle. All vendors shall be subject to randomized inspections. Such inspections shall be recorded on a statewide database utilizing an A-F grading system. The CS stipulates that a vendor receiving an "F" grade may lose their license. The Department shall determine the costs of such inspections and may, in consultation with any relevant local authority partner, charge a reasonable fee for such inspections.

Prepared by: Kalen Taylor