

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB1912
Version:	POLPCS1-AMD1
Request Number:	
Author:	Rep. Pae
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Impact:	\$0

Research Analysis

The amendment to the proposed policy committee substitute for HB 1912 provides that nothing in the act will be construed to require the mandatory addition of synthetic folic acid to any food product when an alternative form of folate is lawfully available and medically appropriate. Any requirement or authorization under this act will allow the use of folate alternatives instead of synthetic folic acid. There should be no penalties for choosing, producing, selling, or consuming food products that use an alternative form of folate and do not contain folic acid. Nothing in this act will be interpreted to override parental rights, informed consent, or medical decision particularly for people with known or suspected genetic conditions that affect folate metabolism. Any public health guidance issued pursuant must clearly disclose that synthetic folic acid is not metabolized equally for all and that alternative folate forms exist and may be more appropriate for some people.

HB 1912 creates the "Corn Masa Nutrition Enhancement Act," which provides that, commencing Jan. 1, 2027, corn masa flour that is manufactured, sold, delivered, distributed, held, offered for sale, or used as an ingredient in the manufacture of a food product must contain folic acid at a level of 0.7 milligrams of folic acid per pound of corn masa flour. Commencing Jan 1, 2027, wet corn masa product must contain folic acid at a level of 0.4 milligrams of folic acid per pound. Both corn masa flour or a wet corn masa product must include a declaration of folic acid on the nutrition label and a declaration that the product contains corn masa flour or was manufactured through a wet corn masa manufacturing process. A person is exempt from these requirements if they are a cottage food operation, a food facility, or a small-volume operator, or supply to any of these. This section does not apply to snack foods.

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Fiscal Analysis

HB 1912 is not anticipated to have a direct fiscal impact on the state budget.

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Other Considerations

None.