

HB 1965 -- SALE OF KOSHER FOOD

SPONSOR: Schupp

This bill repeals the provisions regarding the sale of kosher food and specifies that all food and food products sold or offered for sale as kosher or kosher for Passover that are packaged in a sealed container must have a label or symbol affixed to it by the manufacturer, packer, or certifier representing the person, agency, or entity that certified the product as kosher or kosher for Passover. If the kosher food or food products are not sold in a sealed container, they cannot be sold or offered for sale unless the seller displays a sign that is clearly readable and contains a description of each kosher food item for sale; the identity of the kosher food certifier; the effective time period of the kosher certification which cannot exceed 12 months; the designation of any product containing dairy ingredients; and certification that all the equipment used in the preparation, storing, and serving of the food items is kosher or kosher for Passover. If the seller also has nonkosher certified meat or poultry for sale in the same place of business, he or she must display a sign that is clearly readable and clearly identifies which products are certified as kosher.

Any person who violates these provisions will be guilty of a class B misdemeanor. A person cannot be deemed to have committed an unlawful practice if it can be shown by a preponderance of the evidence that he or she justifiably relied in good faith upon the representations of a slaughterhouse, manufacturer, processor, packer, or distributor of any food represented to be kosher or kosher for Passover.