

Legislative Analysis



LABORATORY-GROWN MEAT SUBSTITUTES

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4947 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Beau Matthew LaFave
Committee: Agriculture
Complete to 9-18-20

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4947 would amend Chapter VII (Food and Processing Standards) of the Food Law to prohibit a person from labeling or identifying a laboratory-grown meat substitute as meat.

Currently under the act, food is required to contain a full label that includes the identification required by the standard, if any, that applies to the food under the act. If no standard applies, it must be identified by its common or usual name. If there is no common or usual name, it must be identified by a simple and appropriately descriptive name that is not misleading and that accurately identifies or describes the basic nature of the food and its characterizing ingredients or properties. Additionally, if the food contains more than one ingredient, the label must contain an ingredient statement.

MCL 289.7129

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) administers a food licensing and regulatory program under authority of Michigan's Food Law. Part of MDARD's responsibility under the Food Law is inspection of food offered for sale to ensure proper disclosure of ingredients.

House Bill 4947 would impose new labeling requirements with respect to laboratory-grown meat. The new requirements would not materially alter MDARD's licensing and inspection program and would not result in a material increase in department program costs.

Legislative Analyst: Emily S. Smith
Fiscal Analyst: William E. Hamilton

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