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State of Minnesota

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 1726

02/13/2023 Authored by Wolgamott
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Commerce Finance and Policy
02/27/2023 Adoption of Report: Placed on the General Register
Read for the Second Time

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to commerce; modifying the definition of cost; eliminating prohibition on
1.3 below cost sales of gasoline; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 325D.01,
1.4 subdivision 5; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 325D.71.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 325D.01, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 5. Cost. The term "cost," as applied to the wholesale or retail vendor, means:

1.8 (1) the actual current delivered invoice or replacement cost, whichever is lower, without
1.9 deducting customary cash discounts, plus any excise or sales taxes imposed on such
1.10 commodity, goods, wares or merchandise subsequent to the purchase thereof and prior to
1.11 the resale thereof, plus the cost of doing business at that location by the vendor; and

1.12 (2) where a manufacturer publishes a list price and discounts, in determining such "cost"
1.13 the manufacturer's published list price then currently in effect, less the published trade
1.14 discount but without deducting the customary cash discount, plus any excise or sales taxes
1.15 imposed on such commodity, goods, wares or merchandise subsequent to the purchase
1.16 thereof and prior to the resale thereof, plus the cost of doing business by the vendor shall
1.17 be prima facie evidence of "cost";

1.18 ~~(3) for purposes of gasoline offered for sale by way of posted price or indicating meter~~
1.19 ~~by a retailer, at a retail location where gasoline is dispensed into passenger automobiles and~~
1.20 ~~trucks by the consumer, "cost" means the average terminal price on the day, at the terminal~~
1.21 ~~from which the most recent supply of gasoline delivered to the retail location was acquired,~~
1.22 ~~plus all applicable state and federal excise taxes and fees, plus the lesser of six percent or~~
1.23 ~~eight cents.~~

2.1 Sec. 2. **REPEALER.**

2.2 Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 325D.71, is repealed.

325D.71 UNLAWFUL GASOLINE SALES.

Any offer for sale of gasoline by a retailer by way of posted price or indicating meter that is below cost, as defined by section 325D.01, subdivision 5, clause (3), is a violation of section 325D.04, except that the criminal penalties in section 325D.071 do not apply. In addition to the penalties for violations and the remedies provided for injured parties set forth elsewhere in this chapter, the commissioner of commerce may use the authority under section 45.027 for the purpose of preventing violations of this section. A retailer who sells gasoline at the same or higher legally posted price of a competitor in the same market area, on the same day, is not in violation of this section.

A retailer who offers gasoline for sale at a price below cost as part of a promotion at an individual location for no more than three days in any calendar quarter is not in violation of this section.