A bill for an act

relating to the interpretation of statutes; providing that certain private actions are in the public interest and benefit the public; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 645.17.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 645.17, is amended to read:

645.17 PRESUMPTIONS IN ASCERTAINING LEGISLATIVE INTENT.

(a) In ascertaining the intention of the legislature the courts may be guided by the following presumptions:

(1) the legislature does not intend a result that is absurd, impossible of execution, or unreasonable;

(2) the legislature intends the entire statute to be effective and certain;

(3) the legislature does not intend to violate the Constitution of the United States or of this state;

(4) when a court of last resort has construed the language of a law, the legislature in subsequent laws on the same subject matter intends the same construction to be placed upon such language; and

(5) the legislature intends to favor the public interest as against any private interest.

(b) A private action on behalf of one or more persons alleging any violation of a law of this state respecting unfair, discriminatory, or other unlawful practices in business, commerce, or trade is in the public interest and benefits the public.

Sec. 2. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Section 1 is effective the day following final enactment.