

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 344

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE GUERNSEY.

1064L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 262, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the farm-to-table advisory board.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 262, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 262.950, to read as follows:

262.950. 1. As used in this section, the following terms shall mean:

(1) "Locally grown agricultural products", food or fiber produced or processed by a small agribusiness or small farm;

(2) "Small agribusiness", an independent agribusiness located in Missouri with gross annual sales of less than five million dollars;

(3) "Small farm", an independent family-owned farm in Missouri with at least one family member working in the day-to-day operation of the farm.

2. There is hereby created an advisory board, which shall be known as the "Farm-to-Table Advisory Board". The board shall be made up of at least one representative from the following agencies: the University of Missouri-extension service, the department of agriculture, the department of elementary and secondary education, the department of health and senior services, the department of economic development, the department of corrections, the department of mental health, and the office of administration. The representative for the department of agriculture shall serve as the chairperson for the board and shall coordinate the board meetings. The board shall hold at least two meetings, but may hold more as it deems necessary to fulfill its requirements under this section. Staff

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in bold-face type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 of the department of agriculture may provide administrative assistance to the board if such
18 assistance is required.

19 **3. The mission of the board is to provide recommendations for strategies that:**

20 **(1) Allow schools and state institutions to more easily incorporate locally grown**
21 **agricultural products into their cafeteria offerings, salad bars, and vending machines; and**

22 **(2) Increase public awareness of local agricultural practices and the role that local**
23 **agriculture plays in sustaining healthy communities and supporting healthy lifestyles.**

24 **4. In fulfilling its mission under this section, the board shall:**

25 **(1) Investigate the status and availability of local, state, federal, and any other**
26 **public or private resources that may be used to:**

27 **(a) Link schools and state institutions with local and regional farms for the**
28 **purchase of locally grown agricultural products;**

29 **(b) Increase market opportunities for locally grown agricultural products;**

30 **(c) Assist schools and other entities with education campaigns that teach children**
31 **and the general public about the concepts of food production and consumption; the**
32 **interrelationships between nutrition, food choices, obesity, and health; and the value of**
33 **having an accessible supply of locally grown food;**

34 **(2) Identify any type of barrier, which may include legal, logistical, technical, social,**
35 **or financial, that prevents or hinders:**

36 **(a) Schools and state institutions from purchasing more locally grown agricultural**
37 **products;**

38 **(b) The expansion of market opportunities for locally grown agricultural products;**

39 **(c) Schools and other entities from engaging in education campaigns to teach people**
40 **about the concepts of food production and consumption; the interrelationships between**
41 **nutrition, food choices, obesity, and health; and the value of having an accessible supply**
42 **of locally grown food; and**

43 **(3) Develop recommendations for:**

44 **(a) The maximization of existing public and private resources to accomplish the**
45 **objectives in subsection 3 of this section;**

46 **(b) The development of new or expanded resources deemed necessary to accomplish**
47 **the objectives in subsection 3 of this section, which may include resources such as training**
48 **programs, grant programs, or database development; and**

49 **(c) The elimination of barriers that hinder the objectives in subsection 3 of this**
50 **section, which may include changes to school or state institution procurement policies or**
51 **procedures.**

52 **5. The board shall prepare a report containing its findings and recommendations**
53 **and shall deliver such report to the governor, the general assembly, and to the director of**
54 **each agency represented on the board by no later than January 15, 2012.**

55 **6. In conducting its work, the board may hold public meetings at which it may**
56 **invite testimony from experts or it may solicit information from any party it deems may**
57 **have information relevant to its duties under this section.**

58 **7. This section shall expire on January 15, 2012.**