

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 185

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE LOEHNER.

0697L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 21.801, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the joint committee on urban agriculture, with an emergency clause.

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

Section A. Section 21.801, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 21.801, to read as follows:

21.801. 1. There is hereby established a joint committee of the general assembly, which shall be known as the "Joint Committee on Urban [Farming" for the period between the second regular session of the ninety-fifth general assembly and first regular session of the ninety-sixth general assembly] **Agriculture**".

2. The joint committee shall be composed of ten members. Five members shall be from the senate, with three members appointed by the president pro tem of the senate and two members appointed by the minority leader of the senate. Five members shall be from the house of representatives, with three members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and two members appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives. All members of the Missouri general assembly not appointed in this subsection may be nonvoting, ex officio members of the joint committee. A majority of the appointed members of the joint committee shall constitute a quorum.

3. The joint committee shall meet within thirty days after it becomes effective and organize by selecting a chairperson and a vice chairperson, one of whom shall be a member of the senate and the other a member of the house of representatives. The joint committee may meet at locations other than Jefferson City when the committee deems it necessary.

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 4. The committee shall prepare a final report together with its recommendations for any
18 legislative action deemed necessary for submission to the speaker of the house of representatives,
19 president pro tem of the senate, and the governor by December 31, [2010] **2012**. The report shall
20 study and make recommendations regarding the impact of urban farm cooperatives, vertical
21 farming, and sustainable living communities in this state and shall examine the following:

22 (1) Trends in urban farming, including vertical farming, urban farm cooperatives, and
23 sustainable living communities;

24 (2) Existing services, resources, and capacity for such urban farming;

25 (3) The impact on communities and populations affected; and

26 (4) Any needed state legislation, policies, or regulations.

27 5. The committee shall hold a minimum of one meeting at three urban regions in the
28 state of Missouri to seek public input. The committee may hold such hearings, sit and act at such
29 times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the committee considers
30 advisable to carry out the provisions of this section.

31 6. The joint committee may solicit input and information necessary to fulfill its
32 obligations from the general public, any state department, state agency, political subdivision of
33 this state, or anyone else it deems advisable.

34 7. (1) The joint committee shall establish a subcommittee to be known as the "Urban
35 Farming Advisory Subcommittee" to study, analyze, and provide background information,
36 recommendations, and findings in preparation of each of the public hearings called by the joint
37 committee. The subcommittee may also review draft recommendations of the joint committee,
38 if requested. The subcommittee will meet as often as necessary to fulfill the requirements and
39 time frames set by the joint committee.

40 (2) The subcommittee shall consist of twelve members, as follows:

41 (a) Four members shall include the directors of the following departments, or their
42 designees:

43 a. Agriculture, who shall serve as chair of the subcommittee;

44 b. Economic development;

45 c. Health and senior services; and

46 d. Natural resources; and

47 (b) The chair shall select eight additional members, subject to approval by a majority of
48 the joint committee, who shall have experience in or represent organizations associated with at
49 least one of the following areas:

50 a. Sustainable energy;

51 b. Farm policy;

52 c. Urban botanical gardening;

- 53 d. Sustainable agriculture;
54 e. Urban farming or community gardening;
55 f. Vertical farming;
56 g. Agriculture policy or advocacy; and
57 h. Urban development.

58 8. Members of the committee and subcommittee shall serve without compensation but
59 may be reimbursed for necessary expenses pertaining to the duties of the committee.

60 9. The staffs of senate research, the joint committee on legislative research, and house
61 research may provide such legal, research, clerical, technical, and bill drafting services as the
62 joint committee may require in the performance of its duties.

63 10. Any actual and necessary expenses of the joint committee, its members, and any staff
64 assigned to the joint committee incurred by the joint committee shall be paid by the joint
65 contingent fund.

66 11. [This] **The** provisions of this section shall expire on January 1, [2011] **2013**.

Section B. Because immediate action is necessary to have continuity in the study of
2 urban farming issues, section A of this act is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation
3 of the public health, welfare, peace, and safety, and is hereby declared to be an emergency act
4 within the meaning of the constitution, and section A of this act shall be in full force and effect
5 upon its passage and approval.