

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6245
BILL NUMBER: HB 1011

NOTE PREPARED: Nov 14, 2003
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Agritourism Council.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Koch
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill establishes the Agritourism Council (Council). The bill requires the Department of Commerce to provide staff for the council. The bill requires the Council to promote agritourism in Indiana.

The bill requires the Council to submit an annual report to the Governor and to the Legislative Services Agency.

Effective Date: July 1, 2004.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill establishes the 21-member Indiana Agritourism Council to promote tourism at Indiana farms, horticultural sites, and agribusiness operations. The Council will be chaired by the Commissioner of Agriculture. Members of the Council include the Governor, the presiding officer of the State Fair Commission, the chair and ranking minority members of both the House and Senate standing committees concerned with agritourism issues, the dean of the School of Agriculture at Purdue, representatives of the Department of Commerce's 12 regional tourism districts, and one member of the largest agriculture association in the state.

Members of the Council are not entitled to a per diem or reimbursement for traveling expenses.

The bill requires the Department of Commerce to provide staff and administrative support to the Agritourism Council. While this provision will increase the administrative burden and costs of the Department, the bill requires the Department to use existing staff positions and resources to cover any increased cost and workload. The Council is required to submit an annual report to the Governor and the executive director of

Legislative Services Agency prior to December 31 of each year.

Explanation of State Revenues: The bill allows the Council to accept funds from any source.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Commerce; Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: John Parkey, 317-232-9854.