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# HOUSE BILL No. 1011

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 4-4-32.

**Synopsis:** Agritourism council. Establishes the agritourism council (council). Requires the department of commerce to provide staff for the council. Requires the council to promote agritourism in Indiana. Requires the council to submit an annual report to the governor and to the legislative services agency.

**Effective:** July 1, 2004.

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December 4, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on Rules and Legislative Procedures.

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Second Regular Session 113th General Assembly (2004)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2003 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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# HOUSE BILL No. 1011



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning state offices and administration.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 4-4-32 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS  
2 A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
3 1, 2004]:

4 **Chapter 32. Agritourism Council**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "agritourism" means the act of**  
6 **visiting a working farm or any agricultural, horticultural, or**  
7 **agribusiness operation for purposes of enjoyment, education, or**  
8 **active involvement in the activities of the farm or operation.**

9 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "commissioner" refers to the**  
10 **commissioner of agriculture.**

11 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "council" refers to the**  
12 **agritourism council established by section 6 of this chapter.**

13 **Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "department" refers to the**  
14 **department of commerce or any successor agency.**

15 **Sec. 5. As used in this chapter, "director" refers to the director**  
16 **of the department.**

17 **Sec. 6. The agritourism council is established.**



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**Sec. 7. The council consists of the following twenty-one (21) members:**

- (1) The commissioner.**
- (2) The governor or the governor's designee.**
- (3) The presiding officer of the state fair commission or the presiding officer's designee selected from members of the state fair commission.**
- (4) The chairperson and the ranking minority member of the standing committee or study committee of the house of representatives that is concerned with agritourism issues and designated by the speaker of the house of representatives.**
- (5) The chairperson and the ranking minority member of the standing committee or study committee of the senate that is concerned with agritourism issues and designated by the president pro tempore of the senate.**
- (6) Twelve (12) regional tourism industry representatives, with one (1) appointed by each regional office director within the department.**
- (7) The dean of the school of agriculture at Purdue University or the dean's designee.**
- (8) One (1) member appointed by the largest Indiana organization representing agricultural interests in Indiana, as determined by the number of members of the organization. The member appointed under this subdivision serves at the pleasure of the member's organization.**

**A member described in subdivision (4) or (5) is a nonvoting member.**

- Sec. 8. (a) The commissioner is chairperson of the council.**
- (b) A quorum of the council consists of nine (9) voting members.**
- (c) The council shall adopt written procedures to govern the transaction of business by the council.**

**(d) A member of the council is not entitled to a minimum salary per diem or reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties.**

**Sec. 9. The council shall develop goals and recommendations concerning the following issues:**

- (1) Development of Indiana's agricultural and horticultural base.**
- (2) Job creation and retention in rural Indiana.**
- (3) Development of agritourism opportunities to provide additional income for Indiana's agricultural and horticultural workers.**

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- 1           **(4) Product development, including the creation of outlets for**
- 2           **the sale of crafts, foods, and other items produced in Indiana.**
- 3           **(5) Preservation and development of historic rural resources**
- 4           **in Indiana.**
- 5           **(6) Local, national, and international direct marketing to**
- 6           **increase revenue and enhance the viability of agricultural,**
- 7           **horticultural, and agribusiness operations in Indiana.**
- 8           **(7) Public education about the impact of agriculture and**
- 9           **horticulture on a community's quality of life.**
- 10          **(8) Capital and business assistance for agricultural,**
- 11          **horticultural, and agribusiness workers to increase the**
- 12          **viability, sustainability, and growth of agritourism businesses**
- 13          **and services in Indiana.**

**Sec. 10. The council shall do the following:**

- 15          **(1) Promote agritourism in Indiana to national and**
- 16          **international visitors.**
- 17          **(2) Sustain the viability and growth of the agritourism**
- 18          **industry in Indiana.**
- 19          **(3) Establish and promote an Internet web site that is linked**
- 20          **to the computer gateway administered by the intelenet**
- 21          **commission under IC 5-21-2 and known as accessIndiana.**
- 22          **(4) Create regional agritourism development plans for the**
- 23          **twelve (12) regional offices of the department.**
- 24          **(5) Coordinate efforts to educate the public about agritourism**
- 25          **and Indiana's agricultural heritage and history.**
- 26          **(6) Provide information concerning funding opportunities,**
- 27          **including grants, loans, and partnerships, to persons who are**
- 28          **interested in starting an agritourism business or who operate**
- 29          **an agritourism business.**
- 30          **(7) Make recommendations to the department and the general**
- 31          **assembly regarding any matter involving agritourism.**
- 32          **Recommendations to the general assembly under this**
- 33          **subdivision must be reported in an electronic format under**
- 34          **IC 5-14-6.**
- 35          **(8) Generate economic vitality and tourism activity for**
- 36          **Indiana.**
- 37          **(9) Position Indiana as the recognized agritourism center of**
- 38          **the nation.**

**Sec. 11. The department shall provide the necessary staff and administrative support for the council.**

**Sec. 12. The council shall use:**

- 41          **(1) existing staff and resources; and**
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1           **(2) authorized but vacant staff positions;**  
2 **of the department to perform the duties of the council under this**  
3 **chapter.**  
4           **Sec. 13. The council may receive funds from any source and may**  
5 **expend funds for any activities necessary, convenient, or expedient**  
6 **to carry out the council's purposes.**  
7           **Sec. 14. The council shall submit an annual report to the**  
8 **governor and, in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6, to the**  
9 **executive director of the legislative services agency before**  
10 **December 31 of each year.**

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