

HOUSE BILL No. 1375

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 5-28-5.5.

Synopsis: Local food and farm task force. Establishes the local food and farm task force to create a plan to expand and support a system under which raw agricultural products are produced, processed, distributed, and sold.

Effective: July 1, 2011.

Sullivan, Brown T, Cherry, Battles

January 18, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development.

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First Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2011)

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 2010 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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HOUSE BILL No. 1375

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 5-28-5.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2011]:

4 **Chapter 5.5. Local Food and Farm Task Force**

5 **Sec. 1. (a) As used in this chapter, "task force" refers to the**
6 **Indiana local food and farm task force established by subsection**
7 **(b).**

8 **(b) The Indiana local food and farm task force is established to**
9 **develop a plan with policy and funding recommendations to:**

10 **(1) expand and support a system under which raw**
11 **agricultural products are produced, processed, distributed,**
12 **and sold; and**

13 **(2) assess and overcome obstacles to increasing locally grown**
14 **food production.**

15 **(c) The task force shall be staffed by the Indiana economic**
16 **development corporation. Members of the task force serve for a**
17 **term of two (2) years. The following individuals serve on the task**



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force:

- (1) The director of the Indiana state department of agriculture or the director's designee, who shall serve as chairperson of the task force.**
- (2) The secretary of commerce or the secretary's designee.**
- (3) The secretary of family and social services or the secretary's designee.**
- (4) The commissioner of the state department of health or the commissioner's designee.**
- (5) The state veterinarian or the state veterinarian's designee.**
- (6) Two (2) farmers who produce, process, and sell food in their local communities.**
- (7) One (1) processor of local food.**
- (8) One (1) distributor of local food.**
- (9) One (1) representative of a nonprofit organization involved in the production or distribution of food.**

Members of the task force described in subdivisions (6) through (9) shall be appointed by the governor.

(d) The expenses of the task force shall be paid from appropriations made to the Indiana economic development corporation.

(e) Each member of the task force who is not a state employee is entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and for other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties as provided in the state policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

(f) Each member of the task force who is a state employee is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and for other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties as provided in the state policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

(g) The affirmative votes of a majority of the voting members appointed to the task force under (c)(6) through (c)(9) are required for the task force to take action on any measure, including final reports.

Sec. 2. The task force shall develop a plan that includes:

- (1) policies; and**
- (2) funding recommendations;**

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1 for expanding and supporting systems under which crops are
2 grown, harvested, and sold as food in the same locality. The
3 systems must be designed to assess and overcome obstacles to
4 increasing production and sales of locally grown food.

5 Sec. 3. (a) The task force shall prepare and submit an interim
6 plan to the general assembly not later than October 1, 2012, and a
7 final plan not later than October 1, 2013, in an electronic format
8 under IC 5-14-6.

9 (b) The plan must:

- 10 (1) identify land preservation and acquisition opportunities
- 11 for local agriculture in rural, suburban, and urban areas;
- 12 (2) identify farmer training and development programs and
- 13 make recommendations to expand such training programs;
- 14 (3) identify financial incentives, technical support, and
- 15 training necessary to help farmers make the transition to local
- 16 production by minimizing financial losses during the three (3)
- 17 year transition period required in the certification process
- 18 under United States Department of Agriculture standards and
- 19 helping with record keeping requirements;
- 20 (4) identify strategies and funding needs to make fresh and
- 21 affordable foods more accessible, both in rural and urban
- 22 communities, with an emphasis on creating new food outlets
- 23 in Indiana;
- 24 (5) identify the financial and technical support necessary to
- 25 build connections among landowners, farmers, buyers, and
- 26 consumers;
- 27 (6) identify the financial and technical support necessary to
- 28 build a local food infrastructure for processing, storage, and
- 29 distribution;
- 30 (7) identify the financial and technical support necessary to
- 31 develop new food and agriculture related businesses for local
- 32 food production and distribution, including:
 - 33 (A) on-farm processing;
 - 34 (B) micromarkets;
 - 35 (C) incubator kitchens; and
 - 36 (D) marketing and communications businesses;
- 37 (8) identify the financial and technical support necessary:
 - 38 (A) to expand the development of farmers' markets,
 - 39 roadside markets, and local grocery stores in unserved and
 - 40 underserved areas;
 - 41 (B) to create year round public markets in large
 - 42 communities; and

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1 **(C) to attract processing, distribution, and freezer storage**
2 **facilities;**
3 **(9) research, identify, and coordinate best practices and**
4 **opportunities for the development of local food production;**
5 **(10) identify opportunities to educate the public and**
6 **producers about the benefits of systems under which crops**
7 **are grown, harvested, and sold as food in the same locality;**
8 **and**
9 **(11) identify legal impediments to local food production and**
10 **develop recommendations to remedy the impediments.**
11 **Sec. 4. This chapter expires December 31, 2013.**

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