

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 1222
93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, Parks and Natural Resources, March 15, 2006, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass and be placed on the Consent Calendar.

5147S.04C

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To amend chapter 261, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the farm mentoring and education fund.

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

Section A. Chapter 261, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 261.112, to read as follows:

261.112. 1. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Farm Mentoring and Education Fund", which shall consist of moneys appropriated from the general revenue fund and any other moneys made available by gift, grant, bequest or contribution. All moneys appropriated or otherwise awarded to the fund shall be payable to the state treasurer and deposited into the farm mentoring and education fund. The fund shall be administered by the farm mentoring and education authority within the University of Missouri Extension Center. The general assembly may appropriate up to ninety-nine thousand dollars per fiscal year to the fund, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund.

2. Every calendar year the authority shall administer the farm mentoring and education program from a different University of Missouri Extension Center located in a different region from the University of Missouri Extension Center that administered the program during the immediately preceding year.

3. Moneys appropriated to the fund shall be used to provide for educational programming that combines classroom training with support training such as workshops, apprenticeships, and mentorships

21 in order to create a program designed to help individuals plan and
22 begin sustainable farm enterprises. Moneys shall also be used to
23 provide a salary for a director and staff for the farm mentoring and
24 education authority.

25 4. In the performance of its duties and selection of specific
26 training and projects to receive funding under this section, the
27 authority shall fulfill the goal of facilitating new farms and new
28 farmers, guided by the principles in subdivisions (1) to (5) of this
29 subsection:

30 (1) The program shall provide education and training, giving
31 participants an opportunity to learn firsthand about low-cost,
32 diversified methods of farming through classroom instruction;

33 (2) The authority shall develop beyond the classroom, a
34 mentoring system, pairing participants with experienced farmers to
35 give participants firsthand opportunities to learn about sustainable
36 agriculture within the state;

37 (3) The authority shall exercise diligence and care in the
38 selection of its projects and program participants;

39 (4) The authority shall promote the program across the state,
40 endeavoring to reach both traditional full-time farmers and individuals
41 pursuing various agriculture commodities niches; and

42 (5) The authority shall have the ability to establish and oversee
43 new training sites throughout the state.

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