

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to industrial hemp programs; creating
 3 s. 570.0855, F.S.; providing legislative findings;
 4 providing a definition; authorizing specified
 5 universities in the state to engage in industrial hemp
 6 research projects; providing research project
 7 requirements; requiring such universities to submit a
 8 report to the Governor and Legislature; directing the
 9 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to
 10 adopt rules; providing an appropriation; providing an
 11 effective date.

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 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 15 Section 1. Section 570.0855, Florida Statutes, is created
 16 to read:

17 570.0855 Industrial hemp program.—

18 (1) The Legislature finds that:

19 (a) Industrial hemp may have the potential to be a viable,
 20 commercially grown crop in this state.

21 (b) Before industrial hemp plants are allowed to be
 22 cultivated commercially in this state, it must be proven
 23 scientifically and beyond a reasonable doubt by an industrial
 24 hemp research project pursuant to subsection (3) that any other
 25 commercially grown crop in this state is not put at greater risk

26 | of disease or mortality due to the introduction of industrial
27 | hemp cultivation.

28 | (2) As used in this section, the term "industrial hemp"
29 | means the plant *Cannabis sativa L.* and any part of such plant,
30 | whether growing or not, with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol
31 | concentration of not more than 0.3 percent on a dry-weight
32 | basis. Industrial hemp includes products imported under the
33 | Harmonized Tariff Schedule, 2013, of the United States
34 | International Trade Commission, including hemp seed per
35 | subheading 1207.99.03, hemp oil per subheading 1515.90.80,
36 | oilcake per subheading 2306.90.01, true hemp per heading 5302,
37 | true hemp yarn per subheading 5308.20.00, and woven fabrics of
38 | true hemp fibers per subheading 5311.00.40. A plant that meets
39 | the definition of "industrial hemp" under this subsection is not
40 | "cannabis" as defined in chapter 893.

41 | (3) A university in this state that has a departmental or
42 | generalization specialization in Florida agriculture may conduct
43 | an industrial hemp research project consistent with this section
44 | and all other state and federal laws. The research project shall
45 | include hemp cultivation projects that specifically relate to
46 | potential impacts on any other crops commercially grown in the
47 | state, including, but not limited to, the impacts of plant
48 | pests, diseases, and any related vectors as well as definitive
49 | research on the invasive nature of industrial hemp, and may
50 | include hemp harvesting and processing. The research project

51 shall take place over a minimum of 10 semi-annual crop rotations
52 or 5 years, whichever is longer.

53 (4) Within 90 days after the end of an industrial hemp
54 research project pursuant to subsection (3), the university
55 shall submit a report to the Governor, the President of the
56 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the
57 findings of the research project.

58 (5) The department shall adopt rules as required under 7
59 C.F.R. s. 5940 of the United States Agricultural Act of 2014 to
60 implement this section.

61 Section 2. For the 2017-2018 fiscal year, and annually
62 thereafter through the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the sum of
63 \$150,000 in recurring funds shall be appropriated from the
64 General Revenue Fund to the Department of Agriculture and
65 Consumer Services for the purpose of funding industrial hemp
66 research projects pursuant to this act.

67 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.