

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 419

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE PETERS.

0731H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 262.960 and 262.962, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof three new sections relating to agricultural products purchased by the department of corrections.

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

Section A. Sections 262.960 and 262.962, RSMo, are repealed and three new sections
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 217.148, 262.960, and 262.962, to read as
3 follows:

**217.148. The department, or any of its contracted vendors, shall be required to
2 purchase all beef or vegetable products that are grown or produced in Missouri if the cost
3 of the beef or vegetables products grown or produced in Missouri is not greater than the
4 cost of the beef or vegetables products grown or produced in another state, including
5 transportation.**

262.960. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Farm-to-Table Act".
2 2. There is hereby created within the department of agriculture the "Farm-to-Table
3 Program" to connect Missouri farmers and institutions in order to provide institutions with
4 locally grown agricultural products for inclusion in meals and snacks and to strengthen local
5 farming economies. The department shall establish guidelines for voluntary participation and
6 parameters for program goals, which shall include, but not be limited to, participating institutions
7 purchasing at least ten percent of their food products locally by December 31, 2019. The
8 department shall designate an employee to administer and monitor the farm-to-table program and
9 to serve as liaison between Missouri farmers and institutions. Nothing in this section, nor the
10 guidelines developed by the department, shall require an institution to participate in the
11 farm-to-table program.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

12 3. The following agencies shall make staff available to the Missouri farm-to-table
13 program for the purpose of providing professional consultation and staff support to assist the
14 implementation of this section:

15 (1) The department of health and senior services;

16 (2) The department of elementary and secondary education; **and**

17 (3) The office of administration~~], and~~

18 ~~—— (4) The department of corrections].~~

19 4. The duties of the department employee coordinating the farm-to-table program shall
20 include, but not be limited to:

21 (1) Establishing and maintaining a website database to allow farmers and institutions to
22 connect whereby farmers can enter the locally grown agricultural products they produce along
23 with pricing information, the times such products are available, and where they are willing to
24 distribute such products;

25 (2) Providing leadership at the state level to encourage institutions to procure and use
26 locally grown agricultural products;

27 (3) Conducting workshops and training sessions and providing technical assistance to
28 institution food service directors, personnel, farmers, and produce distributors and processors
29 regarding the farm-to-table program; and

30 (4) Seeking grants, private donations, or other funding sources to support the
31 farm-to-table program.

 262.962. 1. As used in this section, section 262.960, and subsection 5 of section
2 348.407, the following terms shall mean:

3 (1) "Institutions", facilities including, but not limited to, schools, ~~[correctional facilities,]~~
4 hospitals, nursing homes, long-term care facilities, and military bases;

5 (2) "Locally grown agricultural products", food or fiber produced or processed by a small
6 agribusiness or small farm;

7 (3) "Participating institutions", institutions that voluntarily elect to participate in the
8 farm-to-table program;

9 (4) "Schools", includes any school in this state that maintains a food service program
10 under the United States Department of Agriculture and administered by the school;

11 (5) "Small agribusiness", a qualifying agribusiness as defined in section 348.400, and
12 located in Missouri with gross annual sales of less than five million dollars;

13 (6) "Small farm", a family-owned farm or family farm corporation as defined in section
14 350.010, and located in Missouri with less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars in gross sales
15 per year.

16 2. There is hereby created a task force under the AgriMissouri marketing program
17 established in section 261.230, which shall be known as the "Farm-to-Table Task force". The
18 task force shall be made up of at least one representative from each of the following: the
19 University of Missouri extension service, the department of agriculture, ~~[the department of~~
20 ~~corrections,]~~ the department of health and senior services, the department of elementary and
21 secondary education, the office of administration, and a representative from one of the military
22 bases in the state. In addition, the director of the department of agriculture shall appoint one
23 person actively engaged in the practice of small agribusiness. In addition, the commissioner of
24 education shall appoint one person from a school within the state who directs a food service
25 program. ~~[The director of the department of corrections shall appoint one person employed as~~
26 ~~a correctional facility food service director.]~~ The director of the department of health and senior
27 services shall appoint one person employed as a hospital or nursing home food service director.
28 The director of the department of agriculture shall appoint one person who is a registered
29 dietician under section 324.200. One representative for the department of agriculture shall serve
30 as the chairperson for the task force and shall coordinate the task force meetings. The task force
31 shall hold at least two meetings, but may hold more as it deems necessary to fulfill its
32 requirements under this section. Staff of the department of agriculture may provide
33 administrative assistance to the task force if such assistance is required.

34 3. The mission of the task force is to provide recommendations for strategies that:

35 (1) Allow institutions to more easily incorporate locally grown agricultural products into
36 their cafeteria offerings, salad bars, and vending machines; and

37 (2) Allow institutions to work with food service providers to ensure greater use of locally
38 grown agricultural products by developing standardized language for food service contracts.

39 4. In fulfilling its mission under this section, the task force shall review various food
40 service contracts of institutions within the state to identify standardized language that could be
41 included in such contracts to allow institutions to more easily procure and use locally grown
42 agricultural products.

43 5. The task force shall prepare a report containing its findings and recommendations and
44 shall deliver such report to the governor, the general assembly, and to the director of each entity
45 represented on the task force no later than December thirty-first of each year.

46 6. In conducting its work, the task force may hold public meetings at which it may invite
47 testimony from experts, or it may solicit information from any party it deems may have
48 information relevant to its duties under this section.

49 7. Nothing in this section shall require an institution to participate in the farm-to-table
50 program, and the department shall not establish guidelines or promulgate rules that require
51 institutions to participate in such program.

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