

Regular Session, 2010

SENATE BILL NO. 35

BY SENATORS THOMPSON, LONG, NEVERS, RISER, SMITH AND WALSWORTH

FARMING. Provides for the definition of sustainable agriculture. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 3:1(5), relative to agriculture definitions; to provide for the definition of sustainable agriculture; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 3:1(5) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1. Terms defined

As used in this Title, the terms defined in this Section have the meanings herein given to them, except where the context expressly indicates otherwise:

* * *

(5) "Sustainable" or "sustainable agriculture" means science-based practices, including the use of technology, which lead to broad outcome-based performance improvements to meet the needs of present and future generations while advancing environmental, social and economic goals and the well-being of agricultural producers and rural communities. Critical outcomes to consider shall include increasing agricultural productivity; improving human health through access to safe, nutritious and affordable food; and enhancing agricultural and surrounding environments, including water, soil and air

1 **quality.**

2 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
3 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
4 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
5 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
6 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Curry Johnson.

DIGEST

Thompson (SB 35)

Proposed law provides that "sustainable" or "sustainable agriculture" means science-based practices, including the use of technology, which lead to broad outcome-based performance improvements to meet the needs of present and future generations while advancing environmental, social and economic goals and the well-being of agricultural producers and rural communities. Critical outcomes to consider shall include increasing agricultural productivity; improving human health through access to safe, nutritious and affordable food; and enhancing agricultural and surrounding environments, including water, soil and air quality.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 3:1(5))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development to the original bill.

1. Changes the term "sustainably grown" to "sustainable."
2. Removes bio-diversity and habitat preservation from the critical outcomes to consider in the definition.