

CCS SS SCS HCS HB 1720 -- AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

This bill modifies the provisions relating to agricultural economic opportunities.

PET BREEDERS WEEK (Section 9.315 RSMo)

The bill designates the second full week of March as "Pet Breeders Week".

JOINT COMMITTEE ON RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Section 21.915)

The bill establishes the Joint Committee on Rural Economic Development, which shall be composed of five members of the Senate to be appointed by the President Pro Tem and five members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Committee shall investigate and examine issues relating to the economic development of rural areas of the state, as described in the bill. The Committee may submit a report of its activities to the General Assembly, which shall include any recommendations for legislative action or administrative and procedural changes.

LAND SURVEYS (Sections 60.301, 60.315, and 60.345)

The bill adds "center of section" to the points of land included in the definition of "corners of the United States public land survey".

The bill substitutes the phrase "an existent corner" with "a position" within the definition of "obliterated, decayed or destroyed corner".

A description of the procedure used to relate the intersection of meridional and latitudinal lines to the measurement between four known corners is repealed.

Certain options that can be used to reestablish lost standard corners and lost section and quarter-section corners are repealed and replaced with the single proportionate method.

The bill also provides that the proportional position shall be offset, if necessary, in a cardinal direction to the true line defined by the nearest adjacent corners on opposite sides of the quarter corner to be established.

WOOD ENERGY TAX CREDIT (135.305)

The bill extends the tax credit for Missouri wood energy producers

from June 30, 2020 to June 30, 2024.

MEAT PROCESSING FACILITY INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT (135.686)

Currently, the Meat Processing Facility Investment Tax Credit for the expansion or modernization of meat processing facilities is set to expire on December 31, 2021. The bill extends the tax credit until December 31, 2024. The bill also limits the tax credit to taxpayers who own a meat processing facility in the state and employ less than 500 people at all processing facilities nationwide.

ETHANOL RETAILERS INCENTIVE (135.755)

For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2023, the bill authorizes a tax credit for retail dealers selling higher ethanol blend at the retail dealer's service station or for distributors that sell an ethanol blend directly to the final user in the state. The credit will be equal to \$0.05 per gallon of higher ethanol blend sold and dispensed through metered pumps at the service station or directly to the end user during the tax year. The tax credit will be nontransferable and nonrefundable but may be carried forward to any of the five subsequent tax years. The total amount of tax credits authorized under the bill in a given fiscal year will not exceed \$5 million. The program will sunset on December 31, 2024, unless reauthorized by the General Assembly.

BIODIESEL INCENTIVE PROGRAMS (Sections 135.775 and 135.778)

For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2023, the bill authorizes a tax credit for retail dealers selling a biodiesel blend at the retail dealer's service station in the state or for distributors that sell a biodiesel blend directly to the final user in the state. The credit will be equal to \$0.02 per gallon for between a 5% and 10% blend and \$0.05 per gallon for in excess of a 10% blend sold and dispensed through metered pumps at the service station or directly to the final user located in the state during the tax year. If the tax credit exceeds the taxpayers tax liability, the difference shall be refundable. The total amount of tax credits authorized under the bill in a given fiscal year will not exceed \$16 million. The program will sunset on December 31, 2024, unless reauthorized by the General Assembly.

For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2023, the bill authorizes a tax credit for Missouri biodiesel producers in the state. The credit will be equal to \$0.02 per gallon produced by the Missouri biodiesel producer during the tax year. A biodiesel producer that does not qualify as a Missouri biodiesel producer, as defined by in the bill, may claim a prorated tax credit based on

the percentage of the producer's feedstock that originates in Missouri.

If the tax credit exceeds the taxpayers tax liability, the difference shall be refundable. The total amount of tax credits authorized under the bill in a given fiscal year will not exceed \$4 million. The program will sunset on December 31, 2024, unless reauthorized by the General Assembly.

URBAN FARMS (Section 135.1610)

The bill allows a taxpayer to claim a tax credit against the taxpayer's state tax liability in an amount equal to 50% of the taxpayer's eligible expenses for establishing an urban farm or improving an urban farm in an urban area that produces agricultural products solely for distribution to the public.

The amount of the tax credit claimed shall not exceed the amount of the taxpayer's state tax liability in the tax year for which the credit is claimed, the taxpayer shall not be allowed to claim a tax credit under this section in excess of \$5,000 for each urban farm. However, any tax credit that cannot be claimed in the tax year the contribution was made may be carried over to the next three succeeding tax years until the full credit is claimed.

The total amount of tax credits authorized shall not exceed \$200,000. These tax credits cannot be transferred, sold, or assigned. Any taxpayer granted a tax credit who uses the farm for which the credit was issued for personal benefit must repay the tax credit. The program sunsets December 31st, two years after the effective date.

ROLLING STOCK TAX CREDIT (Section 137.1018)

This bill reauthorizes a tax credit for eligible expenses incurred in the manufacture, maintenance, or improvement of a freight line company's qualified rolling stock, which expired on August 28, 2020. Such credit would be reauthorized until August 28, 2024.

SALES TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR FARM EQUIPMENT (Section 144.030)

The bill specifies that sales of certain farm machinery and equipment, including utility vehicles, used for any agricultural purpose are exempt from sales tax. Additionally, this bill provides and alters definitions for utility vehicles and farm tractors.

RECYCLED ASPHALT SHINGLES (Sections 260.221 and 644.060)

The bill specifies that processed recycled asphalt shingles may be used for fill, reclamation, and other beneficial purposes without any permits relating to solid waste management or any permits relating to the Missouri Clean Water Law if such shingles are inspected for toxic and hazardous substances, provided they may not be used for fill, reclamation, or other beneficial purposes within 500 feet of any lake, river, sink hole, perennial stream, or ephemeral stream or below surface level within 50ft of the water table.

SOYBEAN PRODUCERS ASSESSMENT (275.357)

Currently, the federal soybean producers assessment is 0.5% of the net market price of soybeans grown in this state and the state assessment is one half of the national assessment. This bill specifies that as long as the federal assessment remains at 0.5%, the state assessment must correspond to the state credit of the total assessment paid to the commodity merchandising council.

If federal assessment is reduced or ceases, the state assessment will be equal to 0.5% of the net market price of soybeans grown within the state. The bill specifies how the state and federal assessments are to be collected and remitted and that the state feeds are subject to refund.

LOCAL LOG TRUCKS (Sections 301.010, 301.062, 304.180 and 304.240)

The bill modifies the definition of "local log truck" and "local log truck tractor" to specify weight distribution and a total maximum weight for each truck, and updates weight and distance limits. In addition, the bill also sets fines for load-limit violations involving a local log truck or a local log truck tractor.

AGRICULTURAL TAX CREDIT EXTENSIONS (Section 348.436)

Currently, the Agricultural Product Utilization Contributor Tax Credit under Section 348.430, and the New Generation Cooperative Incentive Tax Credit under Section 348.432 are set to expire on December 31, 2021. The bill extends the expiration date to December 31, 2024.

SPECIALTY AGRICULTURAL CROPS (Section 348.491 and 648.493)

This bill creates the "Specialty Agricultural Crops Act", a loan program established by the Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority for the purchase of certain specialty crop resources. The eligibility requirements are specified in the bill.

The maximum loan amount a producer may be eligible to receive is \$35,000. The bill specifies the maximum loan amounts available under the program and the considerations that are to be weighed by the authority when deciding upon a loan application. The bill waives the interest payments for any approved farmer for the first year, provides financing up to 90% of the anticipated cost of the specialty crop purchase, and allows the authority to charge a one time loan review fee of 1% to be charged by the lender. Nothing in the Specialty Agricultural Crops Act precludes any farmer from participating in any other agriculture program.

The bill provides a tax credit to any lender participating in the loan program equal to 100% of the interest waived by the lender for the first year of the loan. The amount of tax credits issued to all eligible lenders in a fiscal year may not exceed \$300,000. The tax credits created in the act may be claimed on a quarterly basis, are not refundable and may be carried over for no more than three years.

The program will sunset two years after the effective date.

FAMILY FARMS ACT (Section 348.500)

Currently, a small farmer may qualify for the Family Farm Livestock Loan Program if he or she is a farmer that is a Missouri resident who has less than \$250,000 in gross sales per year and is only eligible for one loan per family and for only one type of livestock. The bill allows a farmer to qualify if he or she has less than \$500,000 in gross sales per year and removes the restriction to only one loan per family. In addition, the bill doubles the maximum amount of the loan for each type of livestock.

ANHYDROUS AMMONIA (Sections 643.050, 643.079, 643.245 and repeal of 266.355)

The bill repeals provisions of law that give the Department of Agriculture oversight over standards relating to anhydrous ammonia and authorizes the Air Conservation Commission to adopt, promulgate, amend, and repeal rules and regulations for covered processes at agricultural stationary sources that use, store, or sell anhydrous ammonia, and regulations necessary to implement and enforce the risk management plans under the federal Clean Air Act.

Each retail agricultural facility that uses, stores, or sells anhydrous ammonia that is an air contaminant source subject to a risk management plan under the federal Clean Air Act must pay an annual registration of \$200. The bill also establishes an annual tonnage fee for anhydrous ammonia of \$1.25 per ton used or sold.

Each distributor or terminal agricultural facility that uses, stores, or sells anhydrous ammonia that is an air contaminant source subject to a Risk Management Plan Program 3 under federal regulations relating to chemical accident prevention must pay an annual registration of \$5,000 and does not pay a tonnage fee.

The bill creates the "Anhydrous Ammonia Risk Management Plan Subaccount" within the Natural Resources Protection Fund which shall consist of fees required in these provisions.

The bill contains an emergency clause.