

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 130

Introduced by Dubas, 34; Harms, 48.

Read first time January 09, 2009

Committee: Agriculture

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to agriculture; to create the Farm to
2 School Program Task Force; to provide duties and for
3 termination; and to declare an emergency.
4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. (1) The Legislature recognizes that:

2 (a) Farm to school programs will link Nebraska schools
3 with Nebraska farms in their community to provide schools with
4 fresh and minimally processed Nebraska-grown farm commodities for
5 school meals and snacks, to help children develop healthy eating
6 habits, and to improve Nebraska farmers' incomes by providing
7 direct access to nearby markets for the farmers' commodities; and

8 (b) Farm to school programs may include activities that
9 provide students with hands-on learning opportunities, such as farm
10 visits, cooking demonstrations, and school gardening and composting
11 programs, that provide the integration of nutrition and agriculture
12 education into school curricula.

13 (2) It is the intent of the Legislature to develop a
14 statewide farm to school program from the strategic plan and
15 recommendations of the Farm to School Program Task Force.

16 Sec. 2. (1) The Farm to School Program Task Force is
17 created. Members of the task force shall include:

18 (a) Three producers of agricultural products marketed at
19 Nebraska food markets, one a producer of fruits and vegetables, one
20 a producer of protein agricultural products, and one a producer of
21 grain, appointed by the chairperson of the Agriculture Committee of
22 the Legislature;

23 (b) Two suppliers of agricultural products, one a grocer
24 and one a school food supplier, appointed by the chairperson of the
25 Agriculture Committee of the Legislature;

1 (c) Two meat processors appointed by the chairperson of
2 the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature;

3 (d) One food distributor appointed by the chairperson of
4 the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature;

5 (e) One representative from the Action for Healthy Kids
6 organization of Nebraska appointed by the chairperson of the
7 Agriculture Committee of the Legislature;

8 (f) One representative from the Resource Conservation and
9 Development organization in Nebraska appointed by the chairperson
10 of the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature;

11 (g) A representative of food services from a rural
12 Nebraska public school system appointed by the chairperson of the
13 Agriculture Committee of the Legislature;

14 (h) The Director of Food Services for the Lincoln Public
15 School System;

16 (i) The Director of Agriculture or his or her designee;

17 (j) The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee;

18 (k) The Director of Economic Development or his or her
19 designee;

20 (l) One representative from the Rural Development
21 Commission appointed by the chairperson of the Agriculture
22 Committee of the Legislature;

23 (m) The chairperson of the Agriculture Committee of the
24 Legislature or his or her designee;

25 (n) A designee from the Cooperative Extension Service of

1 the University of Nebraska, Lincoln office; and

2 (o) The Director of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
3 Dining Service or his or her designee.

4 (2) The chairperson of the Agriculture Committee of the
5 Legislature or his or her designee shall serve as chairperson of
6 the task force. Administrative and staff support for the task force
7 shall be provided by the Agriculture Committee of the Legislature.
8 The members of the task force shall be appointed within thirty days
9 after the effective date of this act, and the task force shall
10 meet within thirty days after its members are appointed at the call
11 of the chairperson. Members of the task force shall serve without
12 compensation, but members shall be reimbursed for their actual and
13 necessary expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

14 (3) The task force shall develop a strategic plan for
15 a farm to school program described in section 1 of this act. The
16 task force shall present their strategic plan and recommendations
17 for legislation to the Governor and the Legislature no later than
18 December 15, 2009.

19 Sec. 3. Sections 1 to 3 of this act terminate on December
20 31, 2009.

21 Sec. 4. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect
22 when passed and approved according to law.