

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2026
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB794

Hearing Date: Tuesday January 20, 2026
Committee On: Agriculture
Introducer: DeKay
One Liner: Change powers and duties of the Department of Agriculture and eliminate provisions relating to the Healthy Soils Task Force and obsolete fund transfers

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:
Aye: 8 Senators DeKay, Hansen, Holdcroft, Ibach, Kauth, Raybould, Meyer, F., Storm
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Testimony:

Proponents:
Senator Barry DeKay

Representing:
Opening Presenter

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 794 outright repeals sections of statute creating a Healthy Soils Task Force, including its membership and assigned tasks. The task force completed its work in December, 2020 and its existence is already terminated by current law. Thus the statutes authorizing the creation of the task force and its duties are no longer needed. Harmonizing revisions are made in other provisions of statute as described in the section-by-section summary.

Section-by-Section Description:

Sec. 1: Corrects an internal reference in §2-406 of the Resilient Soils and Water Quality Act to be consistent with the repeal of a cited section.

Sec. 2: Amends §81-201 which enumerates duties and authorities of the Department of Agriculture. LB 794 renumbers existing duties within a subsection (1) and inserts a new subsection (2) directing the Department to submit report documents and records of proceedings of the Healthy Soils Task Force to the Clerk of the Legislature.



Sec. 3: Amends §81-2,162.27 which creates the Fertilizers and Soil Conditioners

Administrative Fund. LB 794 strikes an obsolete authorization to utilize the fund for expenses of the Department of Agriculture to support the work of the Healthy Soils Task Force and to strike an additional expired transfer from the fund.

Sec. 4: Corrects an internal reference due to the reorganization of §81-201 in section 2 of the bill.

Sec. 5: Repealer section

Sec. 6: Outright repeals §§2-401 through 2-404. These sections created the Healthy Soils Task Force and assigned its duties.

Barry DeKay, Chairperson

