

FEB 18 1999
Agriculture

HOUSE FILE 320
BY BURNETT

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for research regarding the production and
2 marketing of industrial hemp.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 320

1 Section 1. INDUSTRIAL HEMP -- RESEARCH BY IOWA STATE
2 UNIVERSITY.

3 1. As used in this section, "industrial hemp" means
4 cannabis sativa L. which has a percentage of
5 tetrahydrocannabinol of not more than one percent.

6 2. The general assembly finds that there is a trend among
7 states to consider the economic importance of industrial hemp,
8 which is a major crop in other nations. Industrial hemp
9 historically has contributed to the economic welfare of this
10 country, and is a renewable natural resource manufactured for
11 textiles, pulp, paper, oil, and other products. The purpose
12 of this Act is to promote the economy of this state by
13 providing for research necessary to develop industrial hemp as
14 a viable crop.

15 3. In carrying out this Act, Iowa state university shall
16 do all of the following:

17 a. Collaborate with agencies of the United States
18 government, including the drug enforcement administration of
19 the United States department of justice, in order to produce
20 and possess industrial hemp according to the terms and
21 conditions required by the United States government. Iowa
22 state university may execute any memorandum of understanding
23 with a United States government agency in order to carry out
24 this section, and may obtain any federal permit or other
25 authorization required to carry out this Act.

26 b. Cooperate with law enforcement agencies and the
27 department of agriculture and land stewardship in carrying out
28 this Act.

29 4. Notwithstanding chapter 124, Iowa state university
30 shall, to the extent permitted by the United States
31 government, conduct research regarding the production and
32 marketing of industrial hemp. The research shall include an
33 analysis of all of the following:

34 a. The production of high quality seed varieties having
35 proved adaptation and performance.

1 b. The feasibility of producing industrial hemp in this
2 state as a profitable cash crop, including the adaptability of
3 promising varieties to soils and growing conditions in this
4 state.

5 c. The production of industrial hemp having the lowest
6 possible percentage of tetrahydrocannabinol.

7 d. The development of good production practices, including
8 best management practices for applying nutrients and
9 pesticides; strategies to best conserve, maintain, and improve
10 soil productivity; and methods to control disease.

11 e. The need for and availability of equipment and
12 machinery required to efficiently and cost-effectively produce
13 and harvest industrial hemp.

14 f. Market conditions affecting the economic viability of
15 industrial hemp production, including the identification of
16 markets, the utilization of products, processing methods, and
17 other economic factors affecting the profitable marketing of
18 industrial hemp.

19 5. The research shall be conducted as provided by Iowa
20 state university, and may be carried out in part by the Iowa
21 agricultural and home economics experiment station, including
22 the Leopold center for sustainable agriculture. Research
23 shall, to every extent possible, be determined by experimental
24 trials when appropriate. The university shall cooperate with
25 other states engaged in conducting similar research. The
26 university shall seek financial support from public and
27 private sources in order to carry out this Act, including
28 associations representing agricultural producers. The
29 university shall report the findings and recommendations of
30 the study to the general assembly not later than January 15,
31 2000.

32 EXPLANATION

33 This section provides for research by Iowa state university
34 regarding the production and marketing of industrial hemp
35 which has a percentage of tetrahydrocannabinol of not more

1 than one percent. The bill makes an exception to Iowa's
2 controlled substance Act and authorizes the university to
3 collaborate with agencies of the United States government in
4 order to produce and possess industrial hemp according to the
5 terms and conditions required by the United States government.
6 The bill requires the university to cooperate with law
7 enforcement agencies and the department of agriculture and
8 land stewardship in carrying out the bill's provisions. The
9 bill authorizes the university to conduct research regarding
10 the production of high quality seed varieties, the feasibility
11 of producing industrial hemp in this state as a profitable
12 cash crop, the production of industrial hemp having the lowest
13 possible percentage of tetrahydrocannabinol, the development
14 of good production practices, the need for and availability of
15 suitable equipment and machinery, and market conditions
16 affecting the economic viability of industrial hemp
17 production. The bill requires the university to cooperate
18 with other states engaged in conducting similar research, and
19 to seek financial support from public and private sources.
20 The bill requires the university to report its findings and
21 recommendations to the general assembly not later than January
22 15, 2000.

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