

MAR 3 1999

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOUSE FILE
BY FORD

487

Passed House, Date _____

Passed Senate, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing a minority farmer and agricultural business
2 advisory council.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 487

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 15.221 MINORITY FARMER AND
2 AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL.

3 1. The department shall establish a minority farmer and
4 agricultural business advisory council consisting of seven
5 members. Not more than four members shall be from the same
6 political party. The governor shall appoint the members of
7 the advisory council to four-year terms beginning and ending
8 as provided by section 69.19, subject to confirmation by the
9 senate. At least five of the members shall consist of
10 minority persons who are farmers or who are a minority person
11 and own and operate or manage an agricultural-related
12 business. A vacancy on the advisory council shall be filled
13 in the same manner as regular appointments are made for the
14 unexpired portion of the regular term. A majority of the
15 members shall constitute a quorum and the affirmative vote of
16 a majority of the members is necessary for substantive action
17 to be taken by the advisory council. The advisory council
18 shall be staffed by the department of economic development.

19 2. The advisory council shall meet in May of each year for
20 the purpose of electing one of its members as chairperson and
21 one of its members as vice chairperson. The chairperson and
22 vice chairperson shall not be from the same political party.
23 The advisory council shall meet at least quarterly.

24 3. The duties of the advisory council shall include all of
25 the following:

26 a. Advise and consult with the board with respect to
27 matters which are of concern to minority persons involved in
28 farming and agricultural-related business.

29 b. Submit recommendations to the board relating to actual
30 and proposed activities concerning minority persons involved
31 in farming and agricultural-related business.

32 c. Submit recommendations for legislative or
33 administrative action.

34 d. Review and monitor programs and agencies aimed at or
35 concerning minority persons involved in farming and

1 agricultural-related business in order to determine the
2 effectiveness of the programs and agencies and whether the
3 programs and agencies complement or compete with each other.

4 e. Initiate studies as deemed necessary designed to
5 address issues related to minority persons involved in farming
6 and agricultural-related business.

7 f. Provide other information or perform other duties which
8 would be of assistance to minority persons involved in farming
9 and agricultural-related business.

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EXPLANATION

11 This bill requires the department of economic development
12 to establish a minority farmer and agricultural business
13 advisory council consisting of seven members appointed by the
14 governor and subject to confirmation by the senate. The bill
15 provides that at least five of the members shall consist of
16 minority persons who are farmers or who are a minority persons
17 and own and operate or manage an agricultural-related
18 business. The bill provides that the advisory council shall
19 meet at least quarterly.

20 The bill provides that the advisory council shall advise
21 and consult with the board, submit recommendations to the
22 board relating to actual and proposed activities concerning
23 minority persons involved in farming and agricultural-related
24 business, submit recommendations for legislative or
25 administrative action, review and monitor programs and
26 agencies in order to determine the effectiveness of the
27 programs and agencies and whether the programs and agencies
28 complement or compete with each other, initiate studies, and
29 provide other information or perform other duties which would
30 be of assistance to minority persons involved in farming and
31 agricultural-related business.

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