

House File 2459 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY MASCHER

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for an annual report regarding the purchase of
2 locally and regionally produced or processed food by schools
3 under the farm-to-school program.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
5 TLSB 6220HH 82
6 da/nh/5

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 190A.5 REPORT.
1 2 The farm-to-school council shall prepare a farm-to-school
1 3 report for submission to the governor and general assembly by
1 4 January 15 of each year.
1 5 1. The department of agriculture and land stewardship in
1 6 cooperation with the department of education shall assist the
1 7 council in preparing the report.
1 8 2. The report shall evaluate the success of the
1 9 farm-to-school program in achieving the program's purpose as
1 10 provided in section 190A.1 and grade how it has accomplished
1 11 the program's goals as provided in section 190A.3. The report
1 12 shall include at least all of the following:
1 13 a. The extent to which farmers and schools are
1 14 participating in the program on a regional basis.
1 15 b. The extent to which public agencies and nonprofit
1 16 organizations are partnering with the council to facilitate
1 17 communication between farmers and schools, and contributions
1 18 have been received to support the program.
1 19 c. The council's plans to improve and expand the program.
1 20 d. Any recommendations by the council to improve or expand
1 21 the program, including but not limited to legislative
1 22 proposals.

EXPLANATION

1 23 This bill amends Code chapter 190A as enacted in 2007 by
1 24 the general assembly (2007 Acts, ch. 215, sections 93-96) to
1 25 encourage and promote the purchase of locally and regionally
1 26 produced or processed food in order to improve child nutrition
1 27 and strengthen local and regional farm economies. The program
1 28 seeks to link elementary and secondary public and nonpublic
1 29 schools with Iowa farms to provide schools with fresh and
1 30 minimally processed food for inclusion in school meals and
1 31 snacks.
1 32 The bill requires that a farm-to-school council comprised
1 33 of representatives of interested agencies, organizations
1 34 dedicated to health and nutrition, and agricultural producers
2 1 prepare a report each year for submission to the governor and
2 2 the general assembly. The report must evaluate and grade the
2 3 success of the program, and include plans to improve or expand
2 4 the program, and recommendations to expand or improve the
2 5 program.
2 6 LSB 6220HH 82
2 7 da/nh/5