

House Study Bill 660 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BILL BY CHAIRPERSON OLSON)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing a watershed quality planning advisory
2 council.

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

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 455B.174A Watershed quality
2 planning advisory council.

3 1. The department of natural resources, in cooperation
4 with the department of agriculture and land stewardship, shall
5 establish a watershed quality planning advisory council. The
6 advisory council shall consist of all of the following members:

7 a. The voting members of the advisory council shall include
8 all of the following:

9 (1) One member selected by the Iowa association of municipal
10 utilities.

11 (2) One member selected by the Iowa league of cities.

12 (3) One member selected by the Iowa association of business
13 and industry.

14 (4) One member selected by the Iowa water pollution control
15 association.

16 (5) One member selected by the Iowa rural water association.

17 (6) One member selected by growing green communities.

18 (7) One member selected by the Iowa environmental council.

19 (8) One member selected by the Iowa farm bureau federation.

20 (9) One member selected by the Iowa corn growers
21 association.

22 (10) One member selected by the Iowa soybean association.

23 (11) One member selected by the Iowa pork producers council.

24 (12) One member selected by the soil and water conservation
25 districts of Iowa.

26 (13) One person representing the department of agriculture
27 and land stewardship selected by the secretary of agriculture.

28 (14) One person representing the department of natural
29 resources selected by the director.

30 (15) Two members selected by the Iowa conservation
31 alliance.

32 b. The nonvoting members of the advisory council shall
33 include all of the following:

34 (1) Two members of the senate. One senator shall be
35 appointed by the majority leader of the senate and one senator

1 shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate.

2 (2) Two members of the house of representatives. One
3 member shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of
4 representatives and one member shall be appointed by the
5 minority leader of the house of representatives.

6 2. By December 1 of each year, the advisory council
7 shall report to the governor and the general assembly its
8 recommendations regarding all of the following:

9 a. Improving water quality and optimizing the costs of
10 voluntarily achieving and maintaining water quality standards.

11 b. Creating economic incentives for voluntary nonpoint
12 source load reductions, point source discharge reductions
13 beyond those required by the federal Water Pollution Control
14 Act, implementation of pollution prevention programs, wetland
15 restoration and creation, and the development of emerging
16 pollution control technologies.

17 c. Facilitating the implementation of total maximum daily
18 loads, urban storm water control programs, and nonpoint source
19 management practices required or authorized under the federal
20 Water Pollution Control Act. This paragraph shall not be
21 construed to obviate the requirement to develop a total maximum
22 daily load for waters that do not meet water quality standards
23 as required by section 303(d) of the federal Water Pollution
24 Control Act or to delay implementation of a total maximum daily
25 load that has been approved by the department and the director.

26 d. Providing incentives for the development of new and
27 more accurate and reliable pollution control quantification
28 protocols and procedures.

29 e. Providing greater flexibility through community-based,
30 nonregulatory, and performance-driven watershed management
31 planning.

32 3. The department of natural resources shall provide
33 necessary staff assistance to the advisory council.

34 4. Each year, the voting members of the advisory council
35 shall designate one voting member as chairperson.

1 5. Members of the advisory council shall be reimbursed for
2 actual and necessary expenses incurred by them in the discharge
3 of their official duties.

4 EXPLANATION

5 This bill relates to a watershed quality planning advisory
6 council.

7 The bill requires the department of natural resources,
8 in cooperation with the department of agriculture and land
9 stewardship, to establish a watershed quality planning advisory
10 council.

11 The bill requires, by December 1 of each year, the advisory
12 council to report to the governor and the general assembly
13 its recommendations regarding improving water quality and
14 optimizing the costs of voluntarily achieving and maintaining
15 water quality standards; creating economic incentives for
16 voluntary nonpoint source load reductions, point source
17 discharge reductions beyond those required by the federal Water
18 Pollution Control Act, implementation of pollution prevention
19 programs, wetland restoration and creation, and the development
20 of emerging pollution control technologies; facilitating the
21 implementation of total maximum daily loads, urban storm water
22 control programs, and nonpoint source management practices
23 required or authorized under the federal Water Pollution
24 Control Act; providing incentives for the development of new
25 and more accurate and reliable pollution control quantification
26 protocols and procedures; and providing greater flexibility
27 through community-based, nonregulatory, and performance-driven
28 watershed management planning.