

Senate File 2159 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2159

BY BOLKCOM

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to rural and urban woodlands and trees.

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

1 Section 1. WOODLAND HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

2 1. The department of natural resources, in cooperation
3 with the department of agriculture and land stewardship, shall
4 establish a woodland health advisory committee for the purpose
5 of developing a statewide comprehensive plan to determine how
6 to best maintain healthy, sustainable, growing, and diverse
7 rural and urban woodlands and trees in the state and how to
8 best assist rural landowners and municipalities in dealing with
9 forest and tree-related exotic invasive insects, pathogens, and
10 plants and to maintain and enhance the economic, environmental,
11 and societal benefits of woodland and tree resources for all
12 Iowans. In considering both the short-term and long-term
13 opportunities and solutions, the advisory committee shall
14 review and analyze relevant issues and make recommendations
15 regarding the state's rural and urban tree resources including
16 but not limited to all of the following:

17 a. The current status of Iowa rural and urban woodland and
18 tree resources and any management activities and programs.

19 b. The economic, environmental, and societal value of
20 Iowa's woodland and tree resources.

21 c. The cost of damage to woodlands and trees from exotic
22 invasive insects, pathogens, and plants.

23 d. The potential public safety threat posed by dead and
24 dying urban trees.

25 e. A review of the emerald ash borer invasive species
26 management challenges and emerald ash borer programs of other
27 midwestern states.

28 2. By November 14, 2014, the advisory committee shall
29 submit a final report with findings and recommendations to the
30 governor and the general assembly.

31 3. The task force shall be composed of the following
32 members:

33 a. The following members of the task force shall be
34 appointed by the governor:

35 (1) One representative of the coalition for Iowa's

- 1 woodlands and trees.
- 2 (2) One representative of the Iowa woodland owners
3 association.
- 4 (3) One representative of trees forever.
- 5 (4) One representative of the Iowa tree farm committee.
- 6 (5) One representative of the Iowa arborist association.
- 7 (6) One representative of the northeast Iowa forestry
8 advisory committee.
- 9 (7) One representative of the Iowa association of county
10 conservation boards.
- 11 (8) One representative of the Iowa farm bureau federation.
- 12 (9) One representative of the Iowa urban tree council.
- 13 (10) One representative of the Iowa conservation alliance.
- 14 (11) One representative of the Iowa chapter of the ruffed
15 grouse society of America.
- 16 (12) One representative of the Iowa nut growers
17 association.
- 18 (13) One representative of the Iowa chapter of the wildlife
19 society.
- 20 (14) One representative of the Iowa chapter of the walnut
21 council.
- 22 (15) One representative of the Iowa society of American
23 foresters.
- 24 (16) One representative of the Iowa league of cities.
- 25 (17) One representative of the Iowa insurance institute.
- 26 (18) One representative of the Iowa chapter of the sierra
27 club.
- 28 (19) One representative of the Iowa environmental council.
- 29 (20) One representative of the Iowa nursery and landscape
30 association.
- 31 (21) Two representatives of wood products producers in
32 Iowa.
- 33 (22) One representative of the forestry consulting industry
34 in Iowa.
- 35 (23) One representative of the Iowa parks foundation.

1 (24) One representative of the Iowa utilities board.

2 (25) One representative of municipal foresters in Iowa.

3 (26) One representative of the Iowa cooperative extension
4 service in agriculture and home economics of Iowa state
5 university of science and technology, in the field of forestry,
6 entomology, horticulture, or plant pathology.

7 (27) One representative of a bio-energy project from the
8 university of Iowa.

9 (28) One representative of the Iowa park and recreation
10 association.

11 (29) One representative of the Iowa chapter of the American
12 public works association.

13 (30) One representative of keep Iowa beautiful.

14 b. The director of the department of transportation or the
15 director's designee.

16 c. The director of the department of natural resources or
17 the director's designee.

18 d. The secretary of agriculture or the secretary's
19 designee.

20 e. Two ex officio members of each house of the general
21 assembly. One member each shall be selected by the majority
22 leader of the senate and by the minority leader of the senate,
23 and one member each shall be selected by the speaker of the
24 house of representatives and by the minority leader of the
25 house of representatives. Members of the general assembly
26 shall be entitled to receive per diem and necessary travel and
27 actual expenses pursuant to section 2.10, subsection 5, while
28 carrying out their official duties as members of the advisory
29 committee.

30 4. The director of the department of natural resources, or
31 the director's designee, and the secretary of agriculture, or
32 the secretary's designee, shall serve as co-chairpersons of the
33 advisory committee.

34 Sec. 2. EMERALD ASH BORER INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE. The
35 legislative council is requested to establish an interim

1 study committee, composed of members of the senate and house
2 of representatives, to meet during the 2014 interim, to
3 review the report submitted by the woodland health advisory
4 committee. The study committee shall present its findings and
5 recommendations in a report to the 2015 session of the general
6 assembly.

7 EXPLANATION

8 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
9 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

10 This bill relates to rural and urban woodlands and trees.
11 The bill requires the department of natural resources,
12 in cooperation with the department of agriculture and land
13 stewardship, to establish a woodland health advisory committee
14 for the purpose of developing a statewide comprehensive plan to
15 determine how to best maintain healthy, sustainable, growing,
16 and diverse rural and urban woodlands and trees in the state
17 and how to best assist rural landowners and municipalities in
18 dealing with forest and tree-related exotic invasive insects,
19 pathogens, and plants and to maintain and enhance the economic,
20 environmental, and societal benefits of woodland and tree
21 resources for all Iowans. The membership of the advisory
22 committee is specified. The advisory committee is required to
23 submit a final report with findings and recommendations to the
24 governor and the general assembly by November 14, 2014.

25 The bill requests the legislative council to establish an
26 interim study committee, composed of members of the senate and
27 house of representatives, to meet during the 2014 interim, to
28 review the report submitted by the woodland health advisory
29 committee.