

House File 2038 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2038

BY WILLS

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring Iowa state university to develop a database of
2 water quality measurements within watersheds.

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

1 Section 1. 2015 Iowa Acts, chapter 132, section 18,
2 subsection 2, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:
3 NEW PARAGRAPH. c. Develop and maintain a database of water
4 quality measurements within the state's watersheds based on
5 water samples collected by government entities and private
6 persons. The database shall be developed to allow persons,
7 including the general assembly and administrative agencies, to
8 determine which watersheds have the greatest and most immediate
9 need for action necessary to reduce the transport of nutrients
10 to water from nonpoint sources in accordance with the Iowa
11 nutrient reduction strategy described in paragraph "a". Any
12 information identifying a person holding a legal interest
13 in agricultural land or identifying specific agricultural
14 land shall be a confidential record under section 22.7. The
15 college may cooperate with the Iowa nutrient research center
16 established in section 466B.47 in developing and maintaining
17 the database. The college shall transfer the database to the
18 center on March 1, 2018.

19 EXPLANATION

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

22 This bill requires Iowa state university's college of
23 agriculture and life sciences to develop and maintain a
24 database of water quality measurements within the state's
25 watersheds based on water samples collected by public and
26 private entities. The purpose of this database is to determine
27 which watersheds require the most immediate and greatest
28 efforts necessary to reduce the transport of nutrients to water
29 from nonpoint sources. The development and maintenance of the
30 database would be part of a three-year project established
31 in SF 494 (2015 Iowa Acts, ch. 132) which appropriated \$1.23
32 million to the college for purposes of developing a database
33 to measure the impact of existing agricultural practices and
34 nutrient management decisions on the transport of nutrients
35 from nonpoint sources within watersheds. SF 494 provides

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1 that the college is authorized to enter into a private-public
2 partnership with one or more persons responsible for receiving,
3 collecting, or holding the data. Information identifying a
4 person holding agricultural land or specific agricultural land
5 is a confidential record. The college must submit a final
6 report to the general assembly by March 1, 2018. On that date,
7 the college must transfer the database to the Iowa nutrient
8 research center.