

House File 2585 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2585

BY ISENHART

A BILL FOR

1 An Act creating a pesticide drift and pollution task force, and
2 requiring the submission of a report to the governor and
3 general assembly.

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

1 Section 1. PESTICIDE DRIFT AND POLLUTION TASK FORCE.

2 1. A pesticide drift and pollution task force is created
3 within the department of agriculture and land stewardship. The
4 department shall house the task force and provide it with all
5 necessary staff and supplies to carry out the purpose of the
6 task force as provided in subsection 3.

7 2. The members of the task force shall include the secretary
8 of agriculture or a designee appointed by the secretary of
9 agriculture, who shall serve as the chairperson of the task
10 force. The members shall include all of the following:

11 a. Experts in toxicological studies, anemology studies,
12 diagnostic wind modeling, agronomy, pesticide transport models,
13 and biochemistry.

14 b. Representatives of pesticide manufacturers and
15 distributors.

16 c. Representatives of persons engaged in the application of
17 pesticides, including aerial applicators and crop producers.

18 d. Persons affected by the application of pesticides.

19 3. The purpose of the task force is to study methods to
20 reduce or mitigate pesticide pollution due to the movement of
21 chemical compounds passing through the air in a manner that
22 drifts to nontarget areas measured by amount, size of droplets,
23 and distance carried. The task force shall examine issues
24 associated with spray drift; the release, volatilization, and
25 deposition of pesticides downwind of a target area; and the
26 impacts of exposure. The task force shall take into account
27 special characteristics of nontarget areas, including land used
28 to grow organic or sensitive plants; land used to raise farm
29 animals and produce eggs, milk, or honey; land where there
30 are concentrations of human populations; and land with rare,
31 valuable, or vulnerable ecological systems. The task force
32 shall study the manner in which chemical compounds dissolve in
33 water, are absorbed into the soil matrix, or adhere to sediment
34 and remain in stream and lake beds; and the associated effects
35 on aquatic organisms and drinking water supplies serving human

1 and animal populations.

2 4. The task force shall recommend long-term pesticide
3 application and management practices, as well as appropriate
4 application notice requirements and protective controls. The
5 task force shall recommend a strategy for evaluating the
6 sustainable use of pesticides, including overall integrated
7 pest management practices and the implementation of organic
8 solutions and non-pesticide-based approaches. The task
9 force shall recommend a method to establish and administer an
10 electronic system that allows a person to report and access
11 complaints regarding the application of pesticides, including
12 information regarding the location of the application and
13 alleged damages caused by the application.

14 5. The task force shall submit a report containing findings
15 and recommendations to the governor and general assembly not
16 later than December 30, 2023.

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EXPLANATION

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

20 This bill creates a pesticide drift and pollution task force
21 (task force) within the department of agriculture and land
22 stewardship. The task force is chaired by the secretary of
23 agriculture and includes members with backgrounds in various
24 scientific disciplines, representatives of the industry,
25 representatives of persons involved in the application
26 of pesticides, and persons affected by the application of
27 pesticides. The task force must study methods to reduce or
28 mitigate pesticide pollution due to the movement of chemical
29 compounds passing through the air, dissolving in water,
30 absorbing into the soil matrix, or adhering to sediment; and
31 the associated effects on aquatic organisms and drinking
32 water supplies. The task force is required to recommend
33 long-term pesticide application and management practices,
34 notice requirements for pesticide applications, a strategy for
35 evaluating the sustainable use of pesticides, and a method to

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1 establish and administer an electronic system that allows a
2 person to report and access complaints. The task force must
3 submit a report containing findings and recommendations to the
4 governor and general assembly not later than December 30, 2023.