SENATE FILE BY COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1173)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____ Vote: Ayes ____ Nays ___ Nays ___

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the agricultural development authority by providing for its organization and administration.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA: 4 TLSB 3180SV 80 5 da/pj/5

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Section 1. Section 7E.7, subsection 2, Code 2003, is 1 2 amended to read as follows:

2. The agricultural development authority <u>as established</u> in section 175.3 shall be considered part of the department of 1 5 agriculture and land stewardship. The department of 1 6 agriculture and land stewardship office of treasurer of state.

7 The office may provide staff assistance and administrative 1 8 support to the authority.

9 Sec. 2. Section 175.3, subsection 1, Code 2003, is amended 1 10 to read as follows:

1 11 1. a. The agricultural development authority is 1 12 established within the department of agriculture and land 1 13 stewardship office of treasurer of state. The authority is 1 14 constituted as a public instrumentality and agency of the 1 15 state exercising public and essential governmental functions.

b. The authority is established to undertake programs 1 17 which assist beginning farmers in purchasing agricultural land 1 18 and agricultural improvements and depreciable agricultural 1 19 property for the purpose of farming, and programs which 1 20 provide financing to farmers for permanent soil and water 1 21 conservation practices on agricultural land within the state 1 22 or for the acquisition of conservation farm equipment, and 23 programs to assist farmers within the state in financing 24 operating expenses and cash flow requirements of farming. 1 25 authority shall also develop programs to assist qualified 1 26 agricultural producers within the state with financing other

27 capital requirements or operating expenses.
28 <u>c.</u> The powers of the authority are vested in and exercised 1 28 1 29 by a board of eleven ten members with nine members appointed 1 30 by the governor subject to confirmation by the senate. The

31 treasurer of state or the treasurer's designee and the 32 secretary of agriculture or the secretary's designee are shall 33 serve as an ex officio nonvoting members member. No more than 1 34 five appointed members shall belong to the same political 1 35 party. As far as possible the governor shall include within 1 the membership persons who represent financial institutions 2 experienced in agricultural lending, the real estate sales 3 industry, farmers, beginning farmers, average taxpayers, local 4 government, soil and water conservation district officials, 5 <u>agricultural educators</u>, and other persons specially interested 6 in family farm development.

Sec. 3. Section 175.7, subsection 1, Code 2003, is amended 8 to read as follows:

1. The executive director of the authority shall be 10 appointed by a selection and tenure committee, which shall 2 11 consist of the secretary of agriculture and the chairperson 2 12 and of the board, the vice chairperson of the board, 2 13 established pursuant to section 175.3 and one member elected 14 by the board, or their designees. The executive director 2 15 shall serve at the pleasure of the committee board. The votes 2 16 of three members of the committee are necessary for any 2 17 substantive action taken by the committee, except that two

2 18 members may take a substantive action, if the secretary has a 2 19 conflict of interest. If a member other than the secretary 2 20 has a conflict of interest, the board shall appoint a

2 21 substitute member of the committee from the appointed members 2 22 of the board for the duration of the conflict of interest.

- 2 23 The executive director shall be selected primarily for 2 24 administrative ability and knowledge in the field, without 2 25 regard to political affiliation. 2 26 SF 393 2 27 da/cc/26