

# SENATE BILL No. 164

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 15-11-2-10.

**Synopsis:** Study of community or urban microfarming. Requires the department of agriculture (department) to conduct a formal study in collaboration with certain persons to evaluate the feasibility of establishing community or urban microfarm zones statewide. Requires the department to submit a report to the general assembly containing certain findings and recommendations not later than July 1, 2027.

**Effective:** July 1, 2026.

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## Spencer

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January 5, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Agriculture.

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Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 164

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning agriculture and animals.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 15-11-2-10 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
- 2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
- 3 1, 2026]: **Sec. 10. (a) The department shall conduct a formal study**
- 4 **in collaboration with the following persons to evaluate the**
- 5 **feasibility of establishing community or urban microfarm zones**
- 6 **statewide:**
- 7 (1) The Indiana department of health.
- 8 (2) The Purdue University cooperative extension service.
- 9 (3) Any local government.
- 10 (4) Any community based organization.
- 11 (b) The study conducted under subsection (a) must include the
- 12 following:
- 13 (1) An inventory of suitable vacant or underutilized parcels
- 14 for community agriculture.
- 15 (2) Identification of zoning templates and best practices for
- 16 community or urban microfarm management.
- 17 (3) An evaluation of how community or urban microfarms



1 support food access, nutrition education, and community  
2 engagement.

3 (4) Opportunities for partnerships with the Purdue University  
4 cooperative extension service, local health departments,  
5 health care providers, and educational institutions.

6 (c) Not later than July 1, 2027, the department shall submit a  
7 report to the general assembly, in an electronic format under  
8 IC 5-14-6, with the following information:

9 (1) The findings regarding subsection (b)(1) through (b)(4).

10 (2) A specific finding as to:

11 (A) whether and how community or urban microfarm  
12 zones could work in Indiana; and

13 (B) what options are available for future pilot programs or  
14 technical assistance.

15 (3) A recommendation for:

16 (A) standards to ensure safety and compatibility; and

17 (B) future legislation to implement community or urban  
18 microfarm zones.

