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SENATE BILL No. 164

Proposed Changes to introduced printing by AM016402

DIGEST OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Urban microfarming. Amends the topics included in the study. Removes the requirement that the department of agriculture (department) works with various other agencies to conduct the study. Changes the date by which the department shall submit the report to the general assembly.

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
2 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) The department shall
4 conduct a ~~formal~~ study ~~in collaboration with the following~~
5 ~~persons~~ to evaluate the feasibility of establishing community or
6 urban microfarm zones 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 **>L**
12 (b) The study conducted under subsection (a) must include the
13 following:
14 (1) ~~An inventory of suitable vacant or underutilized parcels~~
15 ~~for community agriculture~~ [A summary of existing studies
16 and literature regarding the feasibility of establishing
17 community or urban microfarm zones statewide].
18 (2) Identification of zoning templates and best practices for
19 community or urban microfarm management.

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1 (3) An evaluation of how community or urban microfarms
2 support food access, nutrition education, and community
3 engagement.
4 (4) Opportunities for partnerships with the Purdue
5 University cooperative extension service, local health
6 departments, health care providers, and educational
7 institutions.
8 (c) Not later than ~~July~~December 1, 2027, the department
9 shall submit a report to the general assembly, in an electronic
10 format under IC 5-14-6, with the following information:
11 (1) The findings regarding subsection (b)(1) through
12 (b)(4).
13 (2) A specific finding as to:
14 (A) whether and how community or urban microfarm
15 zones could work in Indiana; and
16 (B) what options are available for future pilot programs
17 or technical assistance.
18 (3) A recommendation for:
19 (A) standards to ensure safety and compatibility; and
20 (B) future legislation to implement community or urban
21 microfarm zones.
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