

- 4) Requires a grower of industrial hemp to include the country of origin, instead of the county of origin, of the approved cultivar in the registration application.
- 5) Authorizes a county agricultural commissioner to request and receive state and federal criminal history information from a local law enforcement agency to the extent necessary to determine whether a prospective participant is eligible to participate in the industrial hemp program.
- 6) Requires the department to submit information relating to registrations described in a specified federal regulation to the United States Department of Agriculture.
- 7) Requires each registered established agricultural research institution, registered grower of industrial hemp, and registered hemp breeder to report to the Farm Service Agency of the United States Department of Agriculture specified information regarding its hemp production in the state, including the location, acreage, and license or registration number associated with each location in the state where hemp will be produced.
- 8) Makes provisions of state law inoperative on the date on which a state plan for California is approved by the United States Secretary of Agriculture, and would repeal these provisions on January 1 of the following year.

COMMENTS:

The Senate Rules Committee has double referred this bill to the Senate Public Safety Committee as the second committee of referral. Therefore, if this measure is approved by this committee, the motion should include an action to re-refer the bill to the Senate Committee on Public Safety.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

According to the author:

“Senate Bill 292 is a follow up to my SB 153 (2019), which revised provisions regulating the cultivation and testing of industrial hemp to conform to the requirements for a state plan under the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Farm Bill). On October 31, 2019, the USDA published its much anticipated interim regulations, which include additional provisions that need to be reflected in the California Food and Ag. Code and CDFA regulations in order to submit a qualifying state plan. SB 292 deals with these more specific issues regarding reporting of hemp crops throughout the state and testing methodologies used in regards to measuring uncertainty in test results.”

The California Hemp Council writes in support stating:

“Following the passage of SB 153, and on October 31, 2019, the USDA published its much-anticipated interim rule (IFR) regarding hemp cultivation, including additional provisions which need to be reflected in the California Food and Agricultural Code (FAC), CDFR regulations and the state plan.”

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION:

None received.

RELATED LEGISLATION:

SB 153 (Chapter 838, Statutes of 2019): Revised provisions regulating the cultivation and testing of industrial hemp to conform to the requirements for a state plan under the federal Agriculture Marketing Act of 1946, as amended by the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (the federal Farm Bill).

SUPPORT:

California Hemp Council

OPPOSITION:

None received

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