

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 815

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR GOODMAN.

Pre-filed December 1, 2007, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

3375S.011

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 261, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to farm mentoring and education.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 261, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 261.112, to read as follows:

**261.112. 1. There is hereby created the Farm Mentoring and Education Authority, which shall be housed within the University of Missouri Extension Service. The authority shall administer the farm mentoring and education program, which shall help individuals plan and begin sustainable farm enterprises by providing educational programming that combines classroom training with support training such as workshops, apprenticeships, and mentorships. In the performance of its duties and selection of specific training and projects, the authority shall fulfill the goal of facilitating new farms and new farmers, guided by the following principles:**

**(1) The program shall provide education and training, giving participants an opportunity to learn firsthand about low-cost, traditional, and sustainable methods of farming through classroom instruction;**

**(2) The authority shall develop beyond the classroom, a mentoring system, pairing participants with experienced farmers to give participants firsthand opportunities to learn about traditional and sustainable agriculture within the state;**

**(3) The authority shall exercise diligence and care in the selection of its projects and program participants;**

**(4) The authority shall promote the program across the state,**

22 endeavoring to reach both traditional full-time farmers and individuals  
23 pursuing various agriculture commodities niches; and

24 (5) The authority shall have the ability to establish and oversee  
25 new training sites throughout the state.

26 2. To facilitate reaching all parts of the state, each calendar year  
27 the authority shall administer the educational programming required  
28 by this section through a university extension service office located in  
29 a different extension service region from that of the office through  
30 which the programming was administered the immediately preceding  
31 year.

32 3. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Farm  
33 Mentoring and Education Fund", which shall consist of moneys  
34 appropriated from the general revenue fund and any other moneys  
35 made available by gift, grant, bequest or contribution. All moneys  
36 appropriated or otherwise awarded to the fund shall be payable to the  
37 state treasurer and deposited into the farm mentoring and education  
38 fund. The fund shall be administered by the authority created in this  
39 section. Moneys appropriated to the fund shall be used to provide the  
40 educational programming required by this section and a salary for a  
41 director and staff for the authority. The general assembly may  
42 appropriate up to ninety-nine thousand dollars per fiscal year to the  
43 fund. Any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of each fiscal year  
44 shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund, except that  
45 at the end of each biennium and after all statutorily or constitutionally  
46 required transfer of funds have been made, the state treasurer shall  
47 transfer the balance in the fund, except for gifts, donations, bequests,  
48 or money received from a federal source, created in this section in  
49 excess of two hundred percent of the previous fiscal year's  
50 expenditures into the state general revenue fund.

51 4. Pursuant to section 23.253, RSMo, of the Missouri sunset act:

52 (1) The provisions of the new program authorized under this  
53 section shall automatically sunset six years after the effective date of  
54 this section unless reauthorized by an act of the general assembly; and

55 (2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized  
56 under this section shall automatically sunset six years after the  
57 effective date of the reauthorization of this section; and

58 (3) This section shall terminate on September first of the

59 **calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the**  
60 **program authorized under this section is sunset.**

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