

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 1611

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR WASHINGTON.

5757S.011

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 173, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to urban farming apprenticeships.

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

Section A. Chapter 173, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto
2 one new section, to be known as section 173.2559, to read as
3 follows:

173.2559. 1. This section shall be known and may be
2 cited as the "Missouri Urban and Local Food Systems
3 Apprenticeship Act".

4 2. As used in this section, unless the context clearly
5 indicates otherwise, the following terms mean:

6 (1) "Apiary apprenticeship program", a registered
7 apprenticeship program, approved by the United States
8 Department of Labor or the Missouri office of workforce
9 development within the department, that provides on-the-job
10 learning and related technical instruction necessary to
11 become a skilled beekeeper, apiarist, or commercial honey
12 producer;

13 (2) "Department", the department of higher education
14 and workforce development;

15 (3) "Eligible apprenticeship", an apiary
16 apprenticeship program or an urban farming apprenticeship
17 program;

18 (4) "Registered apprenticeship program", a program
19 that meets the federal guidelines set forth in 29 CFR Part
20 29 and 29 U.S.C. Section 50;

21 (5) "Urban farming apprenticeship program", a
22 registered apprenticeship program, approved by the United
23 States Department of Labor or the Missouri office of
24 workforce development within the department, that provides
25 on-the-job learning and related technical instruction
26 necessary to become a skilled urban farmer, market gardener,
27 or local food systems manager, with training in skills such
28 as regenerative soil practices, intensive crop production,
29 and post-harvest handling.

30 3. The department, in consultation with the department
31 of agriculture, shall promote the development and
32 registration of eligible apprenticeships by:

33 (1) Establishing model standards and curriculum
34 guidelines for both urban farming apprenticeship programs
35 and apiary apprenticeship programs to accelerate their
36 approval;

37 (2) Providing technical assistance and outreach to
38 nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, local
39 government agencies, and small agricultural businesses
40 seeking to become program sponsors for eligible
41 apprenticeships;

42 (3) Working with the coordinating board for higher
43 education to ensure that related technical instruction for
44 eligible apprenticeships is available through community
45 colleges and other approved training providers in urban and
46 peri-urban areas.

47 4. The department shall allocate a portion of state
48 funds designated for apprenticeship expansion to registered

49 apprenticeship programs that offer eligible apprenticeships.

50 Priority for such funds shall be given to:

51 (1) New or expanding programs located within a
52 metropolitan statistical area of the state;

53 (2) Programs that partner with local food banks,
54 veteran organizations, or entities dedicated to increasing
55 local food access in underserved communities; and

56 (3) Programs that are led by or specifically serve
57 minority and historically underserved farming populations.

58 5. The department shall annually report to the general
59 assembly on the progress of the Missouri urban and local
60 food systems apprenticeship act, including the number of
61 registered eligible apprenticeships, the number of
62 apprentices enrolled, and the number of credentials issued.

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