2007 ASSEMBLY BILL 146

March 5, 2007 – Introduced by Representatives Hahn, M. Williams, Boyle, Albers, Ballweg, Berceau, Bies, Gronemus, Gunderson, Molepske, Mursau, Owens, Pocan, Townsend and Wood, cosponsored by Senator Schultz. Referred to Committee on Rural Economic Development.

1 AN ACT **relating to:** creating a committee to study the uses of industrial hemp.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill creates the Committee to Study the Uses of Industrial Hemp. The bill requires the committee to review literature related to industrial hemp, to evaluate the economic opportunities for this state that could result from producing and using industrial hemp, and to report its findings and recommendations to the legislature.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

2 Section 1. Nonstatutory provisions.

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- (1) Committee to study the uses of industrial Hemp.
- 4 (a) There is created the committee to study the uses of industrial hemp consisting of the following members:
- 6 1. Two members appointed by the governor.
 - 2. Two members appointed by the president of the senate.
- 3. Two members appointed by the speaker of the assembly.

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- SECTION 1
- 1 4. The chair of the senate committee with jurisdiction over agriculture.
- 2 5. The chair of the assembly committee with jurisdiction over agriculture.
- 3 The secretary of agriculture, trade and consumer protection or the 4 secretary's designee.
 - 7. The secretary of commerce or the secretary's designee.
 - The president of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation, Inc., or the president's designee.
 - (b) The president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly shall each appoint a cochairperson of the committee to study the uses of industrial hemp. The committee shall meet upon the call of the cochairpersons.
 - (c) The committee to study the uses of industrial hemp shall do all of the following:
 - 1. Conduct a review of scientific and business literature on the industrial uses of industrial hemp, including uses of industrial hemp as an alternative fuel and motor oil; uses of omega-3 rich industrial hemp seed and industrial hemp oil in snack foods, body care products, and food supplements; uses of industrial hemp fibers as raw materials for construction and paper products and for fabric; and uses of industrial hemp in the manufacture of recyclable car parts.
 - 2. Conduct a review of scientific literature on the different types of hemp and how industrial hemp differs from the hemp plant that is used in the illegal drug trade because it contains a high content of tetrahydrocannabinols.
 - 3. Conduct a review of economic literature on the economic benefits of and the economic markets for products made using industrial hemp.
 - 4. Conduct a review of actions taken by the federal government and other states to allow production of industrial hemp for industrial uses.

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- 5. Evaluate the economic opportunities for this state that could result from producing industrial hemp as a farm product and using industrial hemp for industrial uses.
- 6. Examine any other issues that the committee determines are relevant to the use of industrial hemp.
- 7. Develop findings and recommendations related to industrial hemp, including any legislative proposals that the committee determines to be appropriate.
- (d) The committee to study the uses of industrial hemp shall report its findings and recommendations to the legislature in the manner provided in section 13.172 (2) of the statutes no later than the first day of the 12th month beginning after the effective date of this paragraph. The committee terminates upon the submission of the report.
- (e) The legislative council staff shall provide staff to assist the committee to study the uses of industrial hemp in the performance of its functions.

15 (END)