



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 148

February Session, 2006

Substitute Senate Bill No. 412

Senate, March 28, 2006

The Committee on Environment reported through SEN. FINCH of the 22nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 22-26e of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) There is hereby established a Governor's Council for Agricultural
4 Development for advisory purposes only, consisting of not more than
5 [thirty] fifteen members. The Commissioner of Agriculture shall be
6 chairman of said council. The Governor shall appoint [twelve] not
7 more than eight council members from a list provided by the
8 Commissioner of Agriculture of persons representative of agricultural
9 activities in the state, including agricultural production, processing,
10 marketing, sales, education, farmland preservation and trade
11 associations. The speaker of the House of Representatives, the
12 president pro tempore of the Senate and the majority leader and
13 minority leader of each house of the General Assembly shall [each]
14 appoint [two council members] one council member.

15 (b) The council shall provide advice to the Department of
 16 Agriculture concerning the development, diversification and
 17 promotion of agricultural products, programs and enterprises in this
 18 state and shall provide for an interchange of ideas from the various
 19 commodity groups and organizations represented.

20 (c) The council shall meet at least [once each calendar quarter]
 21 biannually. Any vacancy in the membership may be filled by the
 22 [Governor] appointing authority. The members shall serve without
 23 compensation or reimbursement for expenses. [Any member absent
 24 from more than two meetings in a year shall be deemed to have
 25 resigned.]

26 (d) The term of each member serving on the effective date of this
 27 section shall expire and the appointing authority shall appoint new
 28 members, effective July 1, 2006.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	22-26e

ENV *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

The Out Years

None

OLR Bill Analysis
sSB 412

AN ACT CONCERNING THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

SUMMARY:

This bill reduces the number of members on the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development from a maximum of 30 to a maximum of 15. It ends current members' terms upon its passage and requires appointing authorities to appoint new members effective July 1, 2006. It adds a farmland preservation representative to those whom the governor may appoint to the council.

The bill requires the council to meet at least biannually, instead of at least quarterly, as under current law. The bill stipulates that the appointing authority fills any membership vacancy, instead of the governor.

It eliminates a provision that deemed members who missed more than two meetings in a year to have resigned.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

THE COUNCIL

The bill reduces the governor's appointments from up to 12 to up to eight. It requires the House speaker, the Senate president pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders of each chamber to each appoint one member, instead of two as under current law. The agriculture commissioner is the council's chairman under both current law and the bill.

By law, the agriculture commissioner must create a list of people who represent certain agriculture activities for the governor to

consider in making her appointments to the council. These activities include agricultural production, processing, marketing, sales, education, and trade associations. The bill adds farmland preservation to the activities.

By law, the council must (1) provide advice to the agriculture department concerning the development, diversification, and promotion of agricultural products, programs, and enterprises and (2) provide for the interchange of ideas from its various representatives.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/10/2006)