

HOUSE BILL No. 5950

October 19, 2016, Introduced by Reps. Cochran, Poleski, Irwin, Hovey-Wright, Lane, Greig, Wittenberg and Darany and referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 412, entitled

"An act to provide for the suppression of serious diseases among bees; to prescribe certain powers and duties of the director of the department of agriculture; and to repeal certain acts and parts of acts,"

(MCL 286.801 to 286.821) by amending the title, as amended by 1993 PA 108, and by adding section 3.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

TITLE

An act to provide for the suppression of serious diseases among bees **AND OTHER POLLINATORS; TO PROVIDE FOR A PROTECTION PLAN FOR POLLINATORS;** to prescribe certain powers and duties of the director of the department of agriculture **AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT;** and to repeal ~~certain~~ acts and parts of acts.

SEC. 3. (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A POLLINATOR PROTECTION PLAN TO DO BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

1 (A) PROMOTE THE HEALTH OF AND MITIGATE THE RISKS TO ALL
2 POLLINATOR SPECIES.

3 (B) ENSURE A ROBUST AGRICULTURE ECONOMY AND INDUSTRY FOR
4 HONEYBEES AND OTHER POLLINATORS.

5 (2) IN DEVELOPING THE POLLINATOR PROTECTION PLAN, THE
6 DEPARTMENT SHALL SEEK THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
7 RESOURCES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY. THE
8 DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH AN ADVISORY GROUP TO ADVISE IT IN
9 DEVELOPING THE PLAN. THE ADVISORY GROUP SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE
10 DEPARTMENT AND INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF AFFECTED GROUPS, SUCH AS
11 BEEKEEPERS, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS, COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE
12 APPLICATORS, PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATORS, PESTICIDE
13 MANUFACTURERS, RETAILERS, LAWN AND TURF SERVICE PROVIDERS,
14 AGRIBUSINESS AND FARMER ORGANIZATIONS, CONSERVATION INTERESTS,
15 PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES, AND AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICES. TO AID IT
16 IN ARRIVING AT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS, THE ADVISORY GROUP MAY
17 ESTABLISH SUBGROUPS TO FOCUS ON PARTICULAR AREAS SUCH AS HABITAT
18 LOSS FOR ALL POLLINATORS, PESTICIDE USE AS IT AFFECTS ALL
19 POLLINATORS, AND HONEYBEE AND OTHER POLLINATOR HEALTH AND DISEASE
20 RESEARCH.

21 (3) THE POLLINATOR PROTECTION PLAN SHALL INCLUDE PRACTICES FOR
22 THE PROTECTION OF POLLINATORS THAT PROVIDE VOLUNTARY BEST
23 MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR PESTICIDE USERS, BEEKEEPERS, LANDOWNERS,
24 AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS. THE POLLINATOR PROTECTION PLAN SHALL
25 SUPPORT ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

26 (A) COMMUNICATION BETWEEN BEEKEEPERS AND APPLICATORS.

27 (B) REDUCTION OF THE RISK TO POLLINATORS FROM PESTICIDES.

1 (C) INCREASES IN POLLINATOR HABITAT.

2 (D) MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING COMPLIANCE WITH STATE PESTICIDE
3 USE REQUIREMENTS.

4 (E) IDENTIFICATION OF NEEDS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH TO PROMOTE
5 ROBUST AGRICULTURE AND APIARY INDUSTRIES.

6 (F) IDENTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION
7 AND OUTREACH ON POLLINATORS.

8 (4) BY 1 YEAR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, THE
9 DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE A REPORT ON ITS PROPOSED PLAN TO THE
10 SENATE AND HOUSE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ON NATURAL RESOURCES
11 AND TO THE GOVERNOR AND SHALL, UPON COMPLETION OF THE PLAN BUT NOT
12 LATER THAN 2 YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, REPORT
13 ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN TO THOSE COMMITTEES AND THE
14 GOVERNOR.

15 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
16 after the date it is enacted into law.