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SENATE BILL 5222

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Hatfield, Hobbs, Frockt, Chase, Hasegawa, and Kline

Read first time 01/23/13. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Water & Rural Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to industrial hemp; and creating new sections.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature intends to investigate the  
4 various economic opportunities and industrial uses associated with  
5 industrial hemp cultivation and production as a farm product in the  
6 state of Washington. By commissioning a study, the legislature intends  
7 to assess whether the state's growing conditions and economic potential  
8 are favorable for the production of industrial hemp so that growers and  
9 other businesses in Washington's agricultural industry may take  
10 advantage of this market opportunity.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The university shall study the  
12 feasibility and desirability of industrial hemp production in  
13 Washington state. In conducting the study, the university shall gather  
14 information from agricultural and scientific literature, consulting  
15 with experts and the public, and reviewing the best practices of other  
16 states and countries worldwide regarding the development of markets for  
17 industrial hemp and hemp products. The study must include an analysis  
18 of:

1 (a) The market economic conditions affecting the development of an  
2 industrial hemp industry in the state;

3 (b) The estimated value-added benefit that Washington's economy  
4 would reap from having a developed industrial hemp industry in the  
5 state;

6 (c) Whether Washington soils and growing conditions are appropriate  
7 for economically viable levels of industrial hemp production;

8 (d) An analysis of the agronomy research being conducted worldwide  
9 relating to industrial hemp varieties, production, and utilization;

10 (e) An analysis of other legislative acts, experiences, and  
11 outcomes around the world regarding industrial hemp production;

12 (f) Recommendations for any legislative actions necessary to  
13 encourage and support the development of an industrial hemp industry in  
14 the state of Washington.

15 (2) The university shall report its findings to the legislature by  
16 January 14, 2014.

17 (3) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this  
18 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

19 (a) "Hemp products" includes all products made with or derived from  
20 industrial hemp including, but not limited to, cloth, cordage, fiber,  
21 food, fuel, paint, paper, particleboard, plastics, seed, seed meal and  
22 seed oil for consumption, and certified seed for cultivation if the  
23 seeds originate from industrial hemp varieties.

24 (b) "Industrial hemp" means all parts and varieties of the plant  
25 cannabis sativa, cultivated or possessed by a licensed grower, whether  
26 growing or not, that contain a tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of  
27 point three percent or less by weight, except that the THC  
28 concentration limit of point three percent may be exceeded for licensed  
29 industrial hemp seed research.

30 (c) "Tetrahydrocannabinol" or "THC" means the natural or synthetic  
31 equivalents of the substances contained in the plant, or in the  
32 resinous extractives of, cannabis, or any synthetic substances,  
33 compounds, salts, or derivatives of the plant or chemicals and their  
34 isomers with similar chemical structure and pharmacological activity.

35 (d) "University" means Washington State University.

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