

SB 6206-S.E - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Authorizes the growing of industrial hemp as a legal, agricultural activity in this state as part of an agricultural pilot program in conformance with the federal agricultural act of 2014.

Requires the department of agriculture to: (1) Establish an industrial hemp research program in which persons grow or cultivate industrial hemp for researching the feasibility and desirability of industrial hemp production;

(2) Supervise the program through licensure and seed certification;

(3) Establish a licensure program to allow persons to grow industrial hemp as part of the industrial hemp research program; and

(4) Establish an industrial hemp seed certification program in support of the industrial hemp research program.

Requires Washington State University to study the feasibility and desirability of industrial hemp production in the state. This requirement expires August 1, 2017.

Veto overridden on March 29, 2016.

VETO MESSAGE ON ESSB 6206

March 10, 2016

To the Honorable President and Members,
The Senate of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 6206 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to authorizing the growing of industrial hemp."

This is a worthy bill, but it has preceded the passage of the 2016-2017 supplemental operating budget, which is a greater legislative priority. Until a budget agreement is reached, I cannot support this bill.

For these reasons I have vetoed Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 6206 in its entirety.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Inslee
Governor