

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**HB 761****2015 Regular Session****Woodruff**

DISTRICTS/SPECIAL: Establishes an urban agriculture incentive zone

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Makes technical changes.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Proposed law authorizes political subdivisions to establish urban agriculture incentive zones in urban areas with a population of at least 45,000 people.

Proposed law creates procedures for political subdivisions to establish urban agriculture incentive zones.

Proposed law authorizes political subdivisions to adopt rules and regulations for the implementation and administration of urban agriculture incentive zones.

Proposed law provides for contract requirements that political subdivisions must adhere to when contracting with landowners affected by the urban agricultural incentive zones that include the following:

- (1) An initial term of not less than three years.
- (2) A restriction that property is at least 3,000 square feet and not more than three acres.
- (3) A requirement that the entire property subject to the contract is dedicated toward commercial or noncommercial agricultural use.
- (4) A prohibition against any dwelling on the property while under contract.
- (5) A notification that if a landowner cancels a contract, the political subdivision is required to impose a cancellation fee.

Proposed law provides for guidelines that require political subdivisions to abstain from taking action in reference to urban agricultural incentive zones.

Proposed law defines "urban", "urban agricultural incentive zone", and "agricultural use" in reference to urban agriculture incentive zones.

Proposed law modifies the present law definition of "bona fide agricultural land" to include property included in urban agriculture incentive zones.

(Amends R.S. 47:2302(A); Adds R.S. 3:4751-4754)