
DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

LeBas

HB No. 878

Abstract: Removes referenda for the imposition and extension of assessments on soybeans, wheat, corn, and grain sorghum, and clarifies the use of funds.

Present law provides for an assessment of 1¢ per bushel on soybeans to be levied and imposed. Further provides that the imposition of such assessment shall be determined by a referendum vote of soybean producers and remain in effect for a five-crop year period. Allows for the extension of such assessment in five-year increments upon approval by referendum vote of the producers. Provides for certain producer voting criteria in the parish of residence.

Proposed law retains present law but removes the voting criteria and the referendum vote for imposition and extension of such assessment.

Present law provides for an assessment of ½¢ per bushel on wheat, corn, and grain sorghum to be levied and imposed. Further provides that the imposition of such assessment shall be determined by a referendum vote of wheat, corn, and grain sorghum producers and remain in effect for a five-crop year period. Allows for the extension of such assessment in 5-year increments upon approval by a referendum vote of the producers. Provides for certain producer voting criteria in the parish of residence.

Proposed law retains present law but removes the voting criteria and the referendum vote for imposition and extension of such assessment.

Present law provides for the board to use collected assessments to conduct a program of research and advertising for the promotion of the soybean, wheat, corn, and grain sorghum industries within and outside of La. Further allows for use of such funds to defray referenda costs.

Proposed law retains present law but removes the use for such funds to defray referenda costs.

(Amends R.S. 3:3553(A) and (B)(1) and 3556(A))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development to the original bill.

1. Made technical changes.

2. Deleted the provisions changing the appointing authority of the La. Soybean and Grain Research and Promotion Board from the governor to the commissioner of agriculture.
3. Deleted the provision to remove concurrent terms of the board members.