



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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CHANGE BEAN COMMISSION

FILED

MAY 28 1989

House Bill 4725
Sponsor: Thomas L. Hickner
Committee: Agriculture

MAILED MAY 1 1989

Complete to 5-9-89

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4725 AS INTRODUCED 4-27-89

The bill would amend Public Act 114 of 1965, which established the Michigan Bean Commission, to do the following:

- * change the number of state districts from 6 to 8;
- * increase the number of members on the Michigan Bean Commission from 9 to 11; and
- * allow the commission (a) to reapportion the state districts (with the advice and consent of the director of the Department of Agriculture and Commission of Agriculture) and (b) to change the method or amount of assessments on bean production after approval by a referendum of bean growers.

State districts. Currently, the act divides the state into six districts, with each district having from one to six counties. The bill would create a District 7 and a District 8 by removing certain counties from Districts 1, 2, and 3, and placing them in the new districts.

Existing Districts:

- 1: Arenac, Bay, Isabella, Mecosta, Midland, and Montcalm counties
- 2: Clinton, Eaton, Gratiot, Ionia, Ingham, and Kent counties
- 3: Saginaw and Shiawassee counties
- 4: Tuscola county
- 5: Genesee, Lapeer, Macomb, St. Clair and Sanilac counties
- 6: Huron county

Proposed Districts:

- 1: Arenac, Bay, Mecosta, and Midland counties
- 2: Gratiot county
- 3: Saginaw county
- 4: Tuscola county (no change)
- 5: Genesee, Lapeer, Macomb, St. Clair, and Sanilac counties (no change)
- 6: Huron county (no change)
- 7: Eaton, Ingham, Clinton, and Shiawassee counties
- 8: Montcalm, Kent, Isabella, and Ionia counties "as well as all counties north of these counties that are not otherwise assigned to a district."

District reapportionment. Every five years (beginning not less than five years after the effective date of the bill), the commission could, with the advice and consent of the director of the Department of Agriculture and the Commission of Agriculture, reapportion the state districts. Reapportionment would have to be on the basis of one or more counties, with the amount of

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planted dry bean acreage being as nearly equal as possible between districts.

If, after reapportionment by the bean commission, one bean commission representative's residence fell within the district of another representative, both representatives would continue to serve on the commission for the length of time remaining in the term of the member who had served for the longest period of time. Newly created districts without a member would have a member selected under the current act's provisions (which is by appointment by the governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, from lists of nominees submitted by growers, handlers, and canners).

Assessments on bean production. The bean commission would be allowed to change the method or the amount of the assessment on beans sold or shipped, provided that the proposed change was approved by growers in a referendum. More than 50 percent of the growers voting in the referendum would have to approve the proposed change, and those voters would have to represent more than 50 percent of the hundredweight voting.

MCL 290.552 and 290.553