

CHAPTER 6

HOUSE BILL No. 2303*

AN ACT creating the Kansas national bio and agro defense facility interagency working group act.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the Kansas national bio and agro defense facility interagency working group act. The purpose of this act is to create an interagency working group to support and assist the United States department of homeland security in the national environmental policy act process to conduct an environmental impact statement on any site in Kansas selected by the department of homeland security for the location of a national bio and agro defense facility and to coordinate efforts among all affected state, county and local agencies to further the state's interest in the siting of a national bio and agro defense facility in Kansas.

Sec. 2. (a) There is hereby established the Kansas national bio and agro defense facility interagency working group.

(b) The working group shall consist of the following members ex officio: The secretary of health and environment, the secretary of commerce or designee, the secretary of administration or designee, the secretary of agriculture or designee, the livestock commissioner or designee, the secretary of revenue or designee, the attorney general or designee, the state board of regents or designee, the mayor of the city of Manhattan or designee, the chairperson of the Leavenworth county board of commissioners or designee, the adjutant general (the state director of homeland security) or designee and the superintendent of the Kansas highway patrol or designee.

(c) The secretary of health and environment shall serve as chairperson of the working group, and the working group may elect a vice-chairperson from among the members of the working group.

(d) All appointments of designees must be made and submitted to the Kansas bioscience authority no more than 30 days after enactment of this act.

Sec. 3. (a) The department of health and environment shall coordinate all acts performed by the members of the working group.

(b) The working group shall:

(1) Establish a support network among the members of the working group to facilitate the efficient and timely completion of all acts to be performed by all affected state and local agencies;

(2) support the governor in the formulation of recommendations regarding the siting of a national bio and agro defense facility in Kansas;

(3) serve as an information resource on the national bio and agro defense facility, including, but not limited to, providing objective, scientific educational material on the national bio and agro defense facility, conducting workshops for state and local agencies, coordinating community outreach meetings, maintaining a website on the national bio and agro defense facility and performing such other tasks as to educate the public about the national bio and agro defense facility;

(4) identify the regulatory responsibilities for all aspects of the siting of a national bio and agro defense facility;

(5) provide guidance to the department of homeland security regarding all state and local permit processes;

(6) coordinate the exchange of information among all federal, state and local agencies affected by the siting of a national bio and agro defense facility in Kansas;

(7) identify available resources that may assist the department of homeland security in the national environmental policy act process; and

(8) facilitate the involvement of all affected state and local agencies in the national environmental policy act process.

Sec. 4. This legislation shall expire upon completion of the national bio and agro defense facility, or elimination of all potential sites in Kansas from consideration by the department of homeland security for the location of a national bio and agro defense facility.

Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the Kansas register.

Approved February 14, 2007.

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