

Assembly Bill No. 388

Passed the Assembly August 15, 2002

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Passed the Senate August 8, 2002

Secretary of the Senate

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day of
_____, 2002, at _____ o'clock __M.

Private Secretary of the Governor



CHAPTER _____

An act to add Article 9.5 (commencing with Section 590) to Chapter 3 of Part 1 of Division 1 of the Food and Agricultural Code, relating to specialty fiber crops.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 388, Strom-Martin. Specialty fiber crops.

Existing law provides for the University of California to conduct various studies, pilot demonstration projects, and programs designed to provide information and support to the Department of Food and Agriculture and California's agricultural community.

This bill would request that the University of California conduct an assessment of economic opportunities available through the production of specialty or alternative fiber crops. This bill would request the University of California to report its finding to the Legislature by January 1, 2004.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Article 9.5 (commencing with Section 590) is added to Chapter 3 of Part 1 of Division 1 of the Food and Agricultural Code, to read:

Article 9.5. Specialty or Alternative Fiber Crops

590. (a) The University of California is requested to conduct an assessment of economic opportunities available through the production of specialty or alternative fiber crops including industrial hemp, kenaf, and flax by extrapolating data on productivity and production costs available from trials conducted in other states and countries to California's conditions. The assessment shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) An estimation of market demand and likely crop prices.
- (2) Identification of potential barriers to profitability.
- (3) Identification of production, legal, processing, and marketing issues that would need to be addressed in future demonstration research or pilot commercial trials.



(b) Not later than January 1, 2004, the University of California is requested to report its findings to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture, and the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Water Resources.



Approved _____, 2002

Governor

