

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 15, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 31, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2504

**Introduced by Committee on Agriculture (Assembly Members
Dodd (Chair), Gallagher (Vice Chair), Gray, Grove, Irwin,
Jones-Sawyer, Mathis, Quirk, and Salas)**

February 19, 2016

An act to add Section 52296.5 to the Food and Agricultural Code, relating to seed.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2504, as amended, Committee on Agriculture. Seed Advisory Board: ~~assessments: alfalfa seed producers~~; *alfalfa seed subcommittee: assessments: alfalfa hay producers*.

Existing law establishes the Seed Advisory Board to advise the Secretary of Food and Agriculture and make recommendations on matters pertaining to the California Seed Law, and requires the board to be advisory on the scope of the program funded by industry and recommend the dollar volume assessments that, when combined with registration fees, provide adequate funds to support the program.

This bill would authorize the board to advise the secretary and make recommendations to assess alfalfa seed ~~producers~~ *sold in the state* to fund research to benefit the alfalfa ~~seed forage~~ industry.

The bill would authorize the board to recommend that the secretary impose an assessment of up to \$0.10 per pound of alfalfa seed sold and, if the board recommends an assessment, would require the secretary to appoint an alfalfa seed subcommittee comprised of 9 members, as

specified, to advise the secretary on funding alfalfa research benefitting the alfalfa forage industry with the proceeds of the assessments collected.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 52296.5 is added to the Food and
- 2 Agricultural Code, to read:
- 3 52296.5. (a) The board may advise the secretary and make
- 4 recommendations to assess alfalfa seed ~~producers~~ *sold in this state*
- 5 *to fund research to benefit the alfalfa-seed forage industry.*
- 6 (b) *Notwithstanding Section 52354, the board may recommend*
- 7 *that the secretary assess alfalfa hay producers an amount not to*
- 8 *exceed ten cents (\$0.10) per pound of alfalfa seed sold by the*
- 9 *producer to fund research to benefit the alfalfa forage industry.*
- 10 (c) *If the board recommends imposing an assessment on alfalfa*
- 11 *hay producers pursuant to subdivision (b), the secretary shall*
- 12 *appoint an alfalfa seed subcommittee to advise the secretary on*
- 13 *funding alfalfa research benefitting the alfalfa forage industry*
- 14 *with the proceeds of the assessments collected pursuant to the*
- 15 *recommendation.*
- 16 (d) *The alfalfa seed subcommittee shall be comprised of nine*
- 17 *members as follows:*
- 18 (1) *Two alfalfa hay producers from the Intermountain region*
- 19 *made up of the counties of Alpine, Del Norte, Humboldt, Inyo,*
- 20 *Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Mono, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra,*
- 21 *Siskyou, and Trinity.*
- 22 (2) *Two alfalfa hay producers from the North Central Region*
- 23 *made up of the Counties of Alameda, Amador, Butte, Calaveras,*
- 24 *Colusa, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Glenn, Lake, Marin, Napa,*
- 25 *Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San*
- 26 *Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus,*
- 27 *Sutter, Tehama, Tuolumne, Yolo, and Yuba.*
- 28 (3) *Two alfalfa hay producers from the South Central Region*
- 29 *made up of the Counties of Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera,*
- 30 *Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa*
- 31 *Barbara, and Tulare.*

1 *(4) Two alfalfa hay producers from the Southern Region made*
2 *up of the Counties of Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside,*
3 *San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura.*

4 *(5) One public member.*

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7 CORRECTIONS:

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