2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 302

May 8, 2017 – Introduced by Representatives GOYKE, E. BROOKS, BERNIER, BOWEN, ANDERSON, NOVAK, SKOWRONSKI, TRANEL, SANFELIPPO, VANDERMEER, KRUG, SCHRAA, WICHGERS, MURSAU, RIPP, OTT, GENRICH, KOLSTE, SPIROS, POPE, KERKMAN, SARGENT, KULP, HEBL, VRUWINK, TAUCHEN, PETRYK, RIEMER, CONSIDINE, MASON, TITTL, SUBECK, KREMER, KATSMA, QUINN, SUMMERFIELD, SNYDER, CROWLEY, JAGLER, THIESFELDT, SINICKI and EDMING, cosponsored by Senators TESTIN, RINGHAND, COWLES, FEYEN, HANSEN, HARSDORF, OLSEN, L. TAYLOR, VINEHOUT, WANGGAARD and WIRCH. Referred to Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs.

1 AN ACT *to create* 45.12 (2m) and 93.43 of the statutes; **relating to:** establishing

2 a veteran farmer assistance and outreach program and creating a veteran

3 farmer logotype.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to create, in consultation with the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Military Affairs, and the federal Department of Agriculture, a program that will integrate veterans into the field of agriculture and support veterans currently working in agriculture. The bill provides that immediate family members of a veteran who died in service, who is missing in action, or who died as a result of a service–connected disability are eligible to participate in the program. The bill also requires DVA, in consultation with DATCP, to create a logotype to identify agricultural products produced by farmers who are certified by DVA as being veterans or who are certified as being immediate family members of veterans who died during service, are missing in action, or died as a result of a service–connected disability.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1   SECTION 1. 45.12 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

2   45.12 **(2m)** (a) The department shall certify each farmer who applies to the

3   department to use the logotype under par. (b) if the farmer is one of the following:

4   1. A veteran.

5   2. An immediate family member of veteran under s. 45.01 (12) (g) to (i).

6   (b) The department, in consultation with the department of agriculture, trade

7   and consumer protection shall design an official logotype appropriate for use on

8   agricultural products produced by persons certified under par. (a).

9   SECTION 2. 93.43 of the statutes is created to read:

10   **93.43   Veteran farmer assistance and outreach program; veteran**

11 **farmer logotype. (1)** VETERAN FARMER ASSISTANCE AND OUTREACH PROGRAM. (a) The

12 department shall establish and implement a program to integrate veterans into the

13 field of agriculture and support veterans currently working in agriculture. The

14 department shall consult with the department of veterans affairs, the department

15 of military affairs, and the federal department of agriculture in creating the

16 program. The department shall consult with the department of corrections to

17 identify and assist formerly incarcerated veterans under the program.

18   (b) The program created under this section shall include assisting veterans in

19 rural and urban communities; providing employment, mentorship, and outreach

20 opportunities; facilitating education opportunities, including through the

21 University of Wisconsin System and the the technical college system; providing

22 advice, technical assistance, and training; connecting veterans with local, state, and

23 federal resources; and creating an Internet site relating to the program.

24   (c) An immediate family member of a veteran under. s. 45.01 (12) (g) to (i) shall

25 be eligible to participate in the program created under this section.

1   **(2)** VETERAN FARMER LOGOTYPE. The department shall assist the department of

2   veterans affairs in designing a logotype under s. 45.12 (2m). The department shall

3   prohibit the use of the logotype by persons other than persons certified under s. 45.12

4   (2m) (a).

5   SECTION 3. **Effective date.**

6   (1) This act takes effect on the 90th after the day of publication.

7   **(END)**