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State of Misconsin 2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4648/1 MCP:kjf

2017 SENATE BILL 562

November 20, 2017 - Introduced by Senators Johnson, Wirch, Risser, Carpenter, Vinehout and Larson, cosponsored by Representatives Goyke, Jarchow, Bowen, Genrich, Pope, C. Taylor, Berceau, Anderson, Subeck, Zepnick, Vruwink, Sargent, Brostoff, Crowley, Fields, Riemer, Young, Ohnstad, Sinicki, Spreitzer, Considine and Zamarripa. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Small Business and Tourism.

AN ACT *to create* 93.425 of the statutes; **relating to:** requiring the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to create an office of urban agriculture.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to create an office of urban agriculture, located in an urban environment, to promote urban agriculture and assist urban farmers and small businesses involved with urban agriculture.

For further information see the *state and local* 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:

- **Section 1.** 93.425 of the statutes is created to read:
- **93.425 Office of urban agriculture.** The department shall establish and operate an office of urban agriculture. The office shall be located in an urban environment and shall promote and support urban agriculture by doing all of the following:

SENATE BILL 562

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- (1) Integrating urban farmers into the field of agriculture and supporting urban farmers currently working in the field of agriculture, and identifying persons who wish to be involved in urban agriculture and related businesses.
- (2) Providing technical assistance to urban farmers and small businesses involved with urban agriculture.
 - (3) Providing employment, mentorship, and outreach opportunities.
- (4) Facilitating education opportunities, including through the University of Wisconsin System, the technical college system, and schools of agriculture.
 - (5) Coordinating information and resources with the department.
 - **(6)** Cooperating and facilitating relationships with local, state, regional, and federal agencies and organizations.
 - (7) Creating an Internet site relating to urban agriculture.

13 (END)