

LOCAL FOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL

2017 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Stephen G. Handy

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This bill creates the Local Food Advisory Council.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ creates the Local Food Advisory Council;
- ▶ designates the duties of the council; and
- ▶ requires the council to periodically report to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee and the Department of Agriculture and Food.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates:

- ▶ to the Senate, as an ongoing appropriation:
 - from the General Fund, \$8,000 to pay for the council; and
- ▶ to the House of Representatives, as an ongoing appropriation:
 - from the General Fund, \$16,000 to pay for the council.

Other Special Clauses:

None

Uncodified Material Affected:

ENACTS UNCODIFIED MATERIAL

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. **Local Food Advisory Council Created.**

(1) There is created the Local Food Advisory Council consisting of the following 15 members:

(a) one member of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate;

(b) two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, each from a different political party;

(c) the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Food, or the commissioner's designee;

(d) the executive director of the Department of Health, or the executive director's designee;

(e) three direct-to-consumer food producers;

(f) one member of a local agriculture organization;

(g) one food retailer;

(h) one licensed dietician;

(i) two county health department representatives;

(j) one community garden representative; and

(k) one representative of a business engaged in the processing, packaging, or distribution of food, to be appointed by the governor.

(2) (a) The president of the Senate shall designate a member of the Senate appointed under Subsection (1)(a) as a cochair of the commission.

(b) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate a member of the House of Representatives appointed under Subsection (1)(b) as a cochair of the commission.

(3) In appointing members to the council under Subsections (1)(f) through (h), the governor shall strive to take into account the geographical makeup of the council.

(4) A vacancy on the council resulting from the council shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(5) Compensation for a member of the council who is a legislator shall be paid in accordance with Section [36-2-2](#) and Legislative Joint Rules, Title 5, Chapter 3, Legislator Compensation.

(6) Council members who are employees of the state shall receive no additional compensation.

(7) The Department of Agriculture and Food shall provide staff support for the council.

Section 2. **Duties.**

(1) The council shall study and make recommendations on:

(a) how to best promote vibrant, locally owned farms;

(b) how to best promote resilient ecosystems;

(c) how to best promote strong communities and healthy eating;

(d) how to best enhance thriving local food economies;

(e) how best to assess impacts of population growth and urbanization and the decline in productive ranch and farmland;

(f) assessment of laws and regulations that deter or hinder the direct sales of locally grown and produced food; and

(g) necessary steps to develop and implement a robust, integrated local food system.

(2) It is the purpose of the Local Food Advisory Council to contribute to:

(a) building a local food economy;

(b) benefitting the state by creating jobs;

(c) stimulating statewide economic development;

(d) circulating money from local food sales within local communities;

(e) preserving open space;

(f) fostering the viability of family-owned farms;

(g) preserving and protecting the natural environment;

(h) increasing consumer access to fresh and nutritious food; and

(i) providing greater food security for state residents.

Section 3. **Duties -- Interim report.**

(1) The council shall:

(a) convene at least four times each year; and

(b) review and make recommendations regarding the policy issues listed in Section 2.

(2) The council shall prepare an annual report and present the report before November 30, 2017, and every November thereafter to:

(a) the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee;

(b) the Department of Agriculture and Food; and

(c) the Food Advisory Board.

Section 4. **Appropriation.**

Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018, the following sums of money are appropriated from resources not otherwise appropriated, or reduced from amounts previously appropriated, out of the funds or accounts indicated. These sums of money are in addition to any amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2018.

ITEM 1To Legislature - Senate

From General Fund, ongoing \$8,000

Schedule of Programs:

Administration \$8,000

ITEM 2To Legislature - House of Representatives

From General Fund, ongoing \$16,000

Schedule of Programs:

Administration \$16,000

Section 5. **Repeal date.**

Uncodified Sections 1, 2, and 3, which create the Local Food Advisory Council, are repealed on November 30, 2022.

Legislative Review Note
Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel