

**SENATE BILL No. 380**

By Committee on Agriculture

2-11

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1 AN ACT concerning agriculture; establishing the local food and farm task  
2 force.

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4 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

5 Section 1. (a) There is hereby established the local food and farm task  
6 force. The local food and farm task force shall be comprised of 18  
7 members, as follows:

8 (1) Two members of the house committee on agriculture and natural  
9 resources who are not members of the same political party appointed by  
10 the chairperson of the house committee on agriculture and natural  
11 resources;

12 (2) two members of the senate committee on agriculture who are not  
13 members of the same political party appointed by the chairperson of the  
14 senate committee on agriculture;

15 (3) the secretary of agriculture or the secretary's designee;

16 (4) one member representing the department for children and families  
17 appointed by the secretary for children and families;

18 (5) one member representing the department of health and  
19 environment appointed by the secretary of health and environment;

20 (6) two members appointed by the governor, including the  
21 chairperson of the task force;

22 (7) two members representing the college of agriculture of Kansas  
23 state university, one member from the department of agricultural  
24 economics and one member from the department of horticulture, forestry  
25 and recreational resources, appointed by the dean of the college of  
26 agriculture;

27 (8) one member representing the Kansas farm bureau;

28 (9) one member representing the Kansas rural center;

29 (10) one member representing the Kansas farmers union;

30 (11) one member representing the Kansas development finance  
31 authority;

32 (12) one member representing the Kansas small business  
33 development center; and

34 (13) two members representing Kansas farmers' markets appointed by  
35 the secretary of agriculture.

36 (b) Members shall be appointed to the task force on or before August

1 1, 2014. The first meeting of the task force shall be called by the  
2 chairperson on or before September 1, 2014. Any vacancy in the  
3 membership of the task force shall be filled by appointment in the same  
4 manner prescribed by this section for the original appointment.

5 (c) (1) Members of the task force attending regular or special  
6 meetings or subcommittee meetings authorized by the task force, shall  
7 only be paid amounts for mileage as provided by subsection (c) of K.S.A.  
8 75-3223, and amendments thereto.

9 (2) The task force may meet at any time and at any place within the  
10 state on the call of the chairperson. A quorum of the task force shall be 10  
11 members. All actions of the task force shall be by motion adopted by a  
12 majority of those members present when there is a quorum.

13 (3) The staff of the Kansas department of agriculture and the  
14 legislative research department shall provide such assistance as may be  
15 requested by the task force.

16 (d) The local food and farm task force shall prepare a local food and  
17 farm plan containing policy and funding recommendations for expanding  
18 and supporting local food systems and for assessing and overcoming  
19 obstacles necessary to increase locally grown food production. The task  
20 force chairperson shall submit such plan to the senate committee on  
21 agriculture and the house committee on agriculture and natural resources  
22 at the beginning of the 2016 regular session of the legislature. The plan  
23 shall include:

24 (1) Identification of financial incentives, technical support and  
25 training necessary to assist farmers to transition to local and specialty crop  
26 production by minimizing financial losses incurred during the transition  
27 period;

28 (2) identification of strategies and funding needs to make fresh and  
29 affordable locally grown foods more accessible;

30 (3) identification of existing local food infrastructures for processing,  
31 storing and distributing food and recommendations for potential  
32 expansion; and

33 (4) strategies for encouragement of farmers' markets, roadside  
34 markets and local grocery stores in unserved and underserved areas.

35 (e) The task force shall cease to exist on December 31, 2015.

36 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
37 publication in the statute book.