

# SB3692



## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

SB3692

Introduced 2/14/2020, by Sen. Scott M. Bennett

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/2-3.80

from Ch. 122, par. 2-3.80

Amends the School Code. Requires the agricultural education unit located within the State Board of Education to be staffed with a minimum of one full-time employee. Provides that the committee of agriculturalists established to represent the various and diverse areas of the agricultural industry in Illinois shall, among other duties, advise the State Board on the administration of the agricultural education line item appropriation and agency rulemaking that affects agricultural education educators. Sets forth changes in the composition of the committee's membership.

LRB101 19335 CMG 68804 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section  
5 2-3.80 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.80) (from Ch. 122, par. 2-3.80)

7 Sec. 2-3.80. (a) The General Assembly recognizes that  
8 agriculture is the most basic and singularly important industry  
9 in the State, that agriculture is of central importance to the  
10 welfare and economic stability of the State, and that the  
11 maintenance of this vital industry requires a continued source  
12 of trained and qualified individuals for employment in  
13 agriculture and agribusiness. The General Assembly hereby  
14 declares that it is in the best interests of the people of the  
15 State of Illinois that a comprehensive education program in  
16 agriculture be created and maintained by the State's public  
17 school system in order to ensure an adequate supply of trained  
18 and skilled individuals and to ensure appropriate  
19 representation of racial and ethnic groups in all phases of the  
20 industry. It is the intent of the General Assembly that a State  
21 program for agricultural education shall be a part of the  
22 curriculum of the public school system K through adult, and  
23 made readily available to all school districts which may, at

1 their option, include programs in education in agriculture as a  
2 part of the curriculum of that district.

3 (b) The State Board of Education shall adopt such rules and  
4 regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of  
5 this Section. The rules and regulations shall not create any  
6 new State mandates on school districts as a condition of  
7 receiving federal, State, and local funds by those entities. It  
8 is in the intent of the General Assembly that, although this  
9 Section does not create any new mandates, school districts are  
10 strongly advised to follow the guidelines set forth in this  
11 Section.

12 (c) The State Superintendent of Education shall assume  
13 responsibility for the administration of the State program  
14 adopted under this Section throughout the public school system  
15 as well as the articulation of the State program to the  
16 requirements and mandates of federally assisted education.  
17 There is currently within the State Board of Education an  
18 agricultural education unit to assist school districts in the  
19 establishment and maintenance of educational programs pursuant  
20 to the provisions of this Section. The staffing of the unit  
21 shall at all times be comprised of an appropriate number of  
22 full-time employees, with a minimum of one full-time employee,  
23 who shall serve as program consultants in agricultural  
24 education and shall be available to provide assistance to  
25 school districts. At least one consultant shall be responsible  
26 for the coordination of the State program, as Head Consultant.

1 At least one consultant shall be responsible for the  
2 coordination of the activities of student and agricultural  
3 organizations and associations.

4 (d) A committee of 13 agriculturalists representative of  
5 the various and diverse areas of the agricultural industry in  
6 Illinois shall be established to at least develop a curriculum  
7 and overview the implementation of the Build Illinois through  
8 Quality Agricultural Education plans of the Illinois  
9 Leadership Council for Agricultural Education and to advise the  
10 State Board of Education on vocational agricultural education,  
11 including the administration of the agricultural education  
12 line item appropriation and agency rulemaking that affects  
13 agricultural education educators. The Committee shall be  
14 composed of the following: 3 ~~(6)~~ agriculturalists representing  
15 the Illinois Leadership Council for Agricultural Education;  
16 not more than 3 agriculturalists with agriculture business  
17 expertise and recommended by the Illinois Leadership Council  
18 for Agricultural Education; at least 2 ~~(2)~~ Secondary  
19 Agriculture Teachers but not more than 4; at least one ~~(1)~~ "Ag  
20 In The Classroom" Teacher but not more than 2; at least one ~~(1)~~  
21 Community College Agriculture Teacher; at least one ~~(1)~~ Adult  
22 Agriculture Education Teacher but not more than 2; at least one  
23 ~~(1)~~ University Agriculture Teacher Educator but not than 2; and  
24 one ~~(1)~~ FFA Representative. All members of the Committee shall  
25 be appointed by the Governor by and with the advice and consent  
26 of the Senate. The terms of all members so appointed shall be

1 for 3 years, except that of the members initially appointed, 5  
2 shall be appointed to serve for terms of 1 year, 4 shall be  
3 appointed to serve for terms of 2 years and 4 shall be  
4 appointed to serve for terms of 3 years. All members of the  
5 Committee shall serve until their successors are appointed and  
6 qualified. Vacancies in terms shall be filled by appointment of  
7 the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate for the  
8 extent of the unexpired term. The State Board of Education  
9 shall implement a Build Illinois through Quality Agricultural  
10 Education plan following receipt of these recommendations  
11 which shall be made available on or before March 31, 1987.  
12 Recommendations shall include, but not be limited to, the  
13 development of a curriculum and a strategy for the purpose of  
14 establishing a source of trained and qualified individuals in  
15 agriculture, a strategy for articulating the State program in  
16 agricultural education throughout the public school system,  
17 and a consumer education outreach strategy regarding the  
18 importance of agriculture in Illinois. The committee of  
19 agriculturalists shall serve without compensation.

20 (e) A school district that offers a secondary agricultural  
21 education program that is approved for State and federal  
22 funding must ensure that, at a minimum, all of the following  
23 are available to its secondary agricultural education  
24 students:

25 (1) An instructional sequence of courses approved by  
26 the State Board of Education.

1           (2) A State and nationally affiliated FFA (Future  
2 Farmers of America) chapter that is integral to instruction  
3 and is not treated solely as an extracurricular activity.

4           (3) A mechanism for ensuring the involvement of all  
5 secondary agricultural education students in formal,  
6 supervised, agricultural-experience activities and  
7 programs.

8           (f) Nothing in this Section may prevent those secondary  
9 agricultural education programs that are in operation before  
10 the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General  
11 Assembly and that do not have an active State and nationally  
12 affiliated FFA chapter from continuing to operate or from  
13 continuing to receive funding from the State Board of  
14 Education.

15           (Source: P.A. 94-855, eff. 1-1-07.)