

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action:	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Clem, Dallum, Greenlick, Komp, Krummel, Lim, Roblan, Whisnant, Buckley
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Derrick Olsen, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/10 (Subcommittee on Education Innovation), 4/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Department of Education to establish school garden program. Directs department to award grants to school districts for garden-based education programs and field trips to educational farms. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department for grants. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2007.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Educational benefits of school gardens
- School nutrition and wellness policies
- Field trips to farms
- Cooperation between Departments of Education and Agriculture, school districts, and agricultural producers
- HB 3476 (farm-to-school bill focused on Department of Education)
- HB 3307 (farm-to-school bill focused on Department of Agriculture)
- Rural/urban cooperation
- Importance of a variety of subjects being taught in schools
- Level of money need for program

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: HB 3185 directs the Department of Education to establish a school garden program. The program will “(a) Coordinate and oversee garden-based education programs offered by school districts; and (b) Award grants to school districts.” The grants will be awarded to school districts for: “(a) Garden-based education programs based on criteria established by the department . . . to facilitate program success by requiring the integration of the programs into school district wellness policies.” and “(b) Field trips to educational farms.”

HB 3185 appropriates an undetermined amount of funds to the Department of Education and thus has a subsequent referral to the Joint Ways and Means Committee.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.