

**HB 2790 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Bentz

**Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources**

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**Action Date:** 05/16/19

**Action:** Do pass with amendments to the A-Eng bill. (Printed B-Eng.)

**Vote:** 4-0-1-0

**Yeas:** 4 - Bentz, Dembrow, Prozanski, Roblan

**Exc:** 1 - Olsen

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Beth Patrino, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 5/9, 5/16

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Expands the definition of "outdoor mass gathering" to allow gatherings to continue beyond 120 hours only for the purpose of providing adequate time for ingress and egress from a gathering located on lands zoned for exclusive farm use, provided that the gathering is located at least 60 miles away from an interstate highway. Allows counties to require a land use permit for any outdoor mass gathering, and allows counties to authorize outdoor mass gatherings that are expected to exceed the allowable time, provided that certain conditions are met. Allows a hearings officer, county planning commission, or county designee to approve or deny permit applications. Prohibits a county from requiring an outdoor mass gathering permit for events permitted under other statutes related to uses on lands zoned for exclusive farm use. Prohibits a county from requiring a land use permit for a gathering of 3,000 people or fewer, any part of which is held outdoors.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Local economic impact of certain outdoor gatherings
- Farming operation and traffic challenges caused by outdoor mass gatherings
- Providing counties flexibility to require a land use permit
- Potential unintended consequences of measure on smaller gatherings

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Prohibits a county from requiring a land use permit for a gathering of 3,000 people or fewer, any part of which is held outdoors.

**BACKGROUND:**

An "outdoor mass gathering" is currently defined as an assembly of more than 3,000 persons which continues for more than one day but less than 5 days within any three-month period, and which is held primarily in open spaces and not in a permanent structure.

House Bill 2790B would: allow counties to require a land use permit for an outdoor mass gathering and to authorize outdoor mass gatherings that are expected to exceed the allowable time; prohibit a county from requiring an outdoor mass gathering permit for events permitted under other statutes related to uses on lands zoned for exclusive farm use; allow a hearings officer, county planning commission, or county designee to approve or deny permit applications; expand the definition of outdoor mass gathering to provide adequate time for ingress and egress; and prohibit a county from requiring a land use permit for a gathering of 3,000 people or fewer, any part of which is held outdoors.