

## HOUSE BILL No. 2460

By Committee on Agriculture

3-25

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AN ACT concerning the Kansas department of agriculture; relating to appointment of secretary thereof; amending K.S.A. 74-560 and repealing the existing section.

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

Section 1. K.S.A. 74-560 is hereby amended to read as follows: 74-560. (a) On and after the effective date of this act, in order to reorganize the administration, planning and regulation of the state's agriculture industry there is hereby established within the executive branch of government the Kansas department of agriculture, which shall be administered under the direction and supervision of a secretary of agriculture.

(b) ~~The state board of agriculture, established pursuant to K.S.A. 74-562, shall nominate three individuals to the governor for the appointment as secretary of agriculture. The governor either shall select and appoint a person nominated to be secretary or shall reject the nominations and request the board to nominate three new individuals for the appointment as secretary. Upon receipt of any such request for the nomination of three new individuals, the board shall nominate three new individuals for the appointment as secretary in the same manner.~~ *The secretary shall be appointed by the governor. The nominees secretary shall have a demonstrated executive and administrative ability to discharge the duties of the office of secretary. Every appointed secretary of agriculture shall be appointed subject to confirmation by the senate as provided in K.S.A. 75-4315b, and amendments thereto. The secretary shall be a member of the governor's cabinet. The secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The secretary shall be in the unclassified service under the Kansas civil service act and shall receive an annual salary to be fixed by the governor. The acting secretary of agriculture who is serving as the secretary on the effective date of this act shall be the secretary of agriculture as established by this act, shall serve at the pleasure of the governor and shall be subject to confirmation by the senate as provided in K.S.A. 75-4315b, and amendments thereto. Any action of the Senate taken prior to the effective date of this act which confirms an individual as the secretary of agriculture is hereby validated and shall constitute confirmation by the Senate of such individual as secretary of agriculture under this section.*

1 (c) The secretary shall organize an annual public informational meet-  
2 ing. The meeting shall take place in each congressional district on a ro-  
3 tating basis.

4 (d) The provisions of the Kansas governmental operations accounta-  
5 bility law apply to the Kansas department of agriculture, and the depart-  
6 ment is subject to audit, review and evaluation under such law.

7 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 74-560 is hereby repealed.

8 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
9 publication in the statute book.

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