CHAPTER 117

(SB 242)

AN ACT relating to bees and making an appropriation therefor.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 252 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) The Kentucky beekeeping fund is hereby established in the State Treasury as a separate trust and agency to be administered by the Department of Agriculture.

(2) Moneys in this fund shall be used to help improve, promote, protect, and support the beekeeping industry in Kentucky, particularly relative to small beekeepers.

(3) Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, any moneys remaining in the fund at the close of the fiscal year, including interest, shall not lapse but shall be carried forward into the succeeding fiscal year to be used for purposes set forth in this section.

(4) The fund may receive gifts, grants, federal funds, and any other funds both public and private.

(5) The Department of Agriculture shall cooperate with Kentucky State University's apiculture extension program to advance the goals set out in subsection (2) of this section.

Section 2. KRS 252.190 is amended to read as follows:

(1) The Commissioner may make and enforce such rules and orders as in his judgment may be necessary to control, eradicate or prevent the introduction, spread or dissemination of any and all bee diseases. In the control or eradication of dangerous bee diseases the Commissioner may destroy by burning or otherwise any infected bees, hives, honey or appliances that he may deem necessary for such control or eradication, without remuneration to the owner. Such infected bees, hives, honey and appliances shall be deemed a public nuisance.

(2) The Commissioner may publish information concerning the inspection of bees or bee diseases as he deems necessary to the carrying out of KRS 252.180 to 252.240.

(3) The Commissioner may order persons owning or possessing bees to report information the Commissioner deems necessary for the discharge of his duties under the provisions of KRS 252.180 to 252.240.

(4) The Commissioner shall promulgate administrative regulations concerning how moneys are received and dispensed in the Kentucky beekeeping fund established in Section 1 of this Act.

(5) The Commissioner may establish a schedule of registration fees to be used for carrying out the provisions of KRS 252.180 to 252.240.

(6) Any person failing to comply with the rules and orders of the Commissioner shall be guilty of a violation of KRS 252.180 to 252.240.

Signed by Governor April 14, 2008.