

CHAPTER 27

(HB 284)

AN ACT relating to KARDA.

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

➔ Section 1. KRS 11.170 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The Kentucky Agriculture Resources Development Authority (KARDA) is created. KARDA shall serve to unify the efforts of agricultural groups working on behalf of farmers and agribusiness and shall be attached to the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes.
- (2) The functions of KARDA shall be to:
 - (a) Advise the Governor and other state officials on economic development initiatives to improve the farm economy;
 - (b) Conduct long-range planning and provide continuity for agriculture and agribusiness;
 - (c) Work with the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch on legislation, policies, and programs with specific emphasis on increasing farm income, ~~and~~ strengthening rural communities, **and ensuring the rights of all farmers; and**
 - ~~(d) Develop market potentials and encourage the "value added" concept to the full extent of its potential;~~
 - ~~(e) Fully develop existing enterprises and identify, explore, and evaluate new enterprise opportunities; and~~
 - ~~(f) Improve the flow of information from the federal and state governments and the university system to agricultural commodity organizations, their members, and the farm community in general.~~
- (3) The membership of KARDA shall consist of **twenty-three (23)** ~~twenty-seven (27)~~ members as follows:
 - (a) The Governor or **the Governor's** ~~his~~ designee;
 - (b) Dean, College of Agriculture, University of Kentucky, **or the Dean's designee;**
 - (c) Commissioner of Agriculture **or the Commissioner's designee;**
 - (d) Chair, Senate Agriculture ~~and Natural Resources~~ Committee;
 - (e) Chair, House Agriculture and Small Business Committee;
 - (f) President, Kentucky Farm Bureau **or the president's** ~~his~~ designee;
 - (g) **Chair, Kentucky Agriculture Council or the chair's designee** ~~President, Kentucky National Farmers Organization or his designee~~;
 - (h) **One (1) member appointed by the Governor from a list of three (3) large animal veterinarians nominated by the Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association** ~~President, Kentucky Bankers Association or his designee~~;
 - (i) Seven (7) members appointed by the Governor as follows: one (1) each from the seven (7) **commodity-specific organizations that officially represent the agricultural commodities** ~~agriculture commodity organizations~~ with the greatest cash receipts from farm marketings as reported by the Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service **by December 1 for the previous calendar year. Each of the commodity-specific organizations may submit its nomination to the Governor by March 1. If more than one (1) commodity-specific organization represents a commodity, each organization may submit a nominee, but the Governor shall determine the KARDA representative for that commodity** ~~. The commodity organizations' representatives shall be elected at the organizations' annual meeting of membership. The election shall be conducted at the annual meeting of membership immediately prior to the expiration of the term of that organization's representative~~;
 - (j) Four (4) **members appointed** ~~appointees~~ by the Governor **as follows: any Kentucky university offering a four (4) year agricultural degree or any agribusiness or agricultural association which is registered with the Secretary of State may submit one (1) nominee to the Governor by March 1. The Governor shall determine the four (4) members from the nominees submitted** ~~from the following~~

organizations, each of whom shall submit one (1) name for consideration: ~~Kentucky Agriculture Communicators, Kentucky Aquaculture Association, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts, Kentucky Beekeepers Association, Kentucky Farm and Power Equipment Dealers Association, Kentucky Feed and Grain Dealers Association, Kentucky Fertilizer and Agriculture Chemical Association, Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council, Kentucky Forest Industry Association, Kentucky Ginseng Association, Kentucky Milk Goat Association, Kentucky Poultry Federation, Kentucky Seed Improvement Association, Kentucky Sheep and Wool Producers Association, Kentucky State Horticultural Society, Kentucky Sweet Sorghum Producers and Processors Association, Kentucky Vegetable Growers Association, Kentucky Vineyard Society, and Kentucky Young Farmers Association~~; and

- (k) **Four (4)**~~Eight (8)~~ members at large selected and appointed by the Governor.~~;~~
- ~~(4)~~~~(1)~~ Initial terms of members, other than those serving ex officio, shall be staggered to provide continuity. Thereafter, terms *of appointed members* shall be for four (4) years, *except for the representatives of the seven (7) commodity groups identified in subsection (3)(i) of this section, who shall serve one (1) year terms.*
- ~~(5)~~~~(4)~~ The Governor shall designate one (1) of the members as chair ~~whose term shall be concurrent with that of the Governor~~. KARDA may elect by majority vote a vice chair and other officers as may be deemed necessary.
- ~~(6)~~~~(5)~~ No member of KARDA shall receive a salary, fee, or other remuneration for services as a member of KARDA, but each member shall be reimbursed for ordinary travel expenses, including meals and lodging, incurred in the performance of duties incident to implementation of the provisions of this section.
- ~~(7)~~~~(6)~~ KARDA shall meet at the call of the Governor or the chair~~, but not less often than four (4) times during each calendar year~~. A majority of the members ~~appointed to KARDA~~ shall constitute a quorum.
- ~~(8)~~~~(7)~~ KARDA shall use, so far as practical, and subject to the approval of the Governor, ~~secretarial and clerical~~ staff of the Governor's Office to carry out the provisions of this section.

➔Section 2. To carry out the changes to the KARDA board as provided by Section 1 of this Act:

- (1) The chair of the Kentucky Agriculture Council shall replace the President of the Kentucky National Farmers Organization, as required under subsection (3)(g) of Section 1 of this Act, on the effective date of this Act;
- (2) The Governor shall, within 30 days of the effective date of this Act:
- Appoint a large animal veterinarian to replace the President of the Kentucky Bankers Association, as required under subsection (3)(h) of Section 1 of this Act;
 - Appoint seven members representing commodity-specific organizations to replace the existing members representing agriculture commodity organizations, as required under subsection (3)(i) of Section 1 of this Act, whose terms shall expire on June 30, 2010;
 - Appoint four members representing Kentucky universities, agribusinesses, or agricultural associations to replace the existing members representing agricultural organizations, as required by subsection (3)(j) of Section 1 of this Act, and who shall fill the unexpired terms of the existing members; and
 - Appoint four members at large, as required by subsection (3)(k) of Section 1 of this Act; and
- (3) (a) The Governor shall determine the lengths of the terms of the members appointed in accordance with subsection (2)(a) and (d) of this section in order to provide continuity of the staggered terms of the membership.
- (b) The members appointed by the Governor in accordance with subsection (2)(b), (c), and (d) of this section may be existing members. It is not intended that existing members may not be appointed if they otherwise meet the qualifications required by Section 1 of this Act.

Signed by the Governor March 20, 2009.