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HOUSE BILL 2634

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Buys, Lytton, Dent, Blake, Stanford, and McBride;  
by request of Department of Agriculture

Read first time 01/18/16. Referred to Committee on Agriculture &  
Natural Resources.

1 AN ACT Relating to modifying the powers and duties of the  
2 Washington dairy products commission to include research and  
3 education related to the economic uses of nutrients produced by dairy  
4 farms; and amending RCW 15.44.060.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 15.44.060 and 2010 c 8 s 6059 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 The commission shall have the power and duty to:

9 (1) Elect a chair and such other officers as it deems advisable,  
10 and adopt, rescind, and amend rules, regulations, and orders for the  
11 exercise of its powers, which shall have the effect of law when not  
12 inconsistent with existing laws;

13 (2) Administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter and  
14 perform all acts and exercise all powers reasonably necessary to  
15 effectuate the purpose hereof;

16 (3) Employ and discharge advertising counsel, advertising agents,  
17 and such attorneys, agents, and employees as it deems necessary, and  
18 prescribe their duties and powers and fix their compensation;

19 (4) Establish offices, incur expenses, enter into contracts, and  
20 create such liabilities as are reasonable and proper for the proper  
21 administration of this chapter;

1 (5) Investigate and prosecute violations of this chapter;

2 (6) Conduct scientific research designed to improve milk  
3 production, quality, transportation, processing, and distribution and  
4 to develop and discover uses for products of milk and its  
5 derivatives;

6 (7) Make in its name such contracts and other agreements as are  
7 necessary to build demand and promote the sale of dairy products on  
8 either a state, national, or foreign basis;

9 (8) Keep accurate records of all its dealings, which shall be  
10 open to public inspection and audit by the regular agencies of the  
11 state;

12 (9) Conduct the necessary research to develop more efficient and  
13 equitable methods of marketing dairy products, and enter upon, singly  
14 or in participation with others, the promotion and development of  
15 state, national, or foreign markets;

16 (10) Participate in federal and state agency hearings, meetings,  
17 and other proceedings relating to the regulation of the production,  
18 manufacture, distribution, sale, or use of dairy products, to provide  
19 educational meetings and seminars for the dairy industry on such  
20 matters, and to expend commission funds for such activities;

21 (11) Retain the services of private legal counsel to conduct  
22 legal actions, on behalf of the commission. The retention of a  
23 private attorney is subject to the review of the office of the  
24 attorney general;

25 (12) Work cooperatively with other local, state, and federal  
26 agencies, universities, and national organizations for the purposes  
27 of this chapter;

28 (13) Accept and expend or retain any gifts, bequests,  
29 contributions, or grants from private persons or private and public  
30 agencies to carry out the purposes of this chapter;

31 (14) Engage in appropriate fund-raising activities for the  
32 purpose of supporting activities of the commission authorized by this  
33 chapter;

34 (15) Expend funds for commodity-related education, training, and  
35 leadership programs as the commission deems appropriate; (~~and~~)

36 (16) Work cooperatively with nonprofit and other organizations to  
37 carry out the purposes of this chapter; and

1        (17) Conduct research and education related to economic uses of  
2 nutrients produced by dairy farms.

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