



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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POTATO INDUSTRY ASSESSMENT

House Bill 5204

Sponsor: Rep. Carl F. Gnodtke

Committee: Agriculture

Complete to 10-10-95

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5204 INTRODUCED 10-5-95

The state potato industry commission act imposes an assessment on potato growers and shippers of one cent "per hundredweight" of potatoes grown in Michigan, and permits the commission by majority vote to raise the assessment by one-half cent per hundredweight as long as such action is approved by a majority vote of growers and shippers at the next annual meeting. The bill would permit an additional assessment to be imposed by the commission, or, conversely, for it to be decreased, upon commission recommendation and passage of a referendum on the matter as provided in the bill. Under the bill, if the director of the Department of Agriculture received a recommendation to increase or decrease the proposed assessment, he or she would have to conduct a referendum by mail within 45 days after receiving the recommendation. The commission would have to adopt the increase or decrease recommended and implement the recommendation if more than 50 percent of all growers who represented more than 50 percent of the volume produced in the previous year agreed to the recommendation.

MCL 290.424 and 290.428

House Bill 5204 (10-10-95)