

2-3101. Interstate Compact on Agricultural Grain Marketing. The "Interstate Compact on Agricultural Grain Marketing" is hereby enacted into law and entered into with all jurisdictions legally joining therein, in the form substantially as follows:

Interstate Compact on Agricultural
Grain Marketing
Article I. — Purpose

It is the purpose of this compact to protect, preserve and enhance:

- (a) The economic and general welfare of citizens of the joining states engaged in the production and sale of agricultural grains;
- (b) the economies and very existence of local communities in such states, the economies of which are dependent upon the production and sale of agricultural grains; and
- (c) the continued production of agricultural grains in such states in quantities necessary to feed the increasing population of the United States and the world.

Article II. — Definitions

As used in this compact:

- (a) "State" means any state of the United States in which agricultural grains are produced for the markets of the nation and world.
- (b) "Agricultural grains" means wheat, durum, spelt, triticale, oats, rye, corn, barley, buckwheat, flaxseed, safflower, sunflower seed, soybeans, sorghum grains, peas and beans.

Article III. — Commission

(a) Organization and Management

(1) *Membership.* There is hereby created an agency of the member states to be known as the Interstate Agricultural Grain Marketing Commission, hereinafter called the commission. The commission shall consist of three residents of each member state who shall have an agricultural background and who shall be appointed as follows: (1) One member appointed by the governor, who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor; (2) one senator appointed in the manner prescribed by the senate of such state, except that two senators may be appointed from the unicameral legislature of the state of Nebraska; and (3) one member of the house of representatives appointed in the manner prescribed by the house of representatives of such state. The member first appointed by the governor shall serve for a term of one year and the senator and representative first appointed shall each serve for a term of two years; thereafter all members appointed shall serve for two-year terms. The attorneys general of member states or assistants designated thereby shall be nonvoting members of the commission.

(2) *Voting; binding action.* Each member shall be entitled to one vote. A member must be present to vote and no voting by proxy shall be permitted. The commission shall not act unless a majority of the voting members are present, and no action shall be binding unless approved by a majority of the total number of voting members present.

(3) *Body corporate; seal.* The commission shall be a body corporate of each member state and shall adopt an official seal to be used as it may provide.

(4) *Meetings.* The commission shall hold an annual meeting and such other regular meetings as its bylaws may provide and such special meetings as its executive committee may determine. The commission bylaws shall specify the dates of the annual and any other regular meetings, and shall provide for the giving of notice of annual, regular and special meetings. Notices of special meetings shall include the reasons therefor and an agenda of the items to be considered.

(5) *Officers.* The commission shall elect annually, from among its voting members, a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and a treasurer. The commission shall appoint an executive director who shall serve at its pleasure, and shall fix the duties and compensation of such director. The executive director shall be secretary of the commission. The commission shall make provision for the bonding of such of its officers and employees as it may deem appropriate.

(6) *Personnel.* Irrespective of the civil service, personnel or other merit system laws of any member state, the executive director shall appoint or discharge such personnel as may be necessary for the performance of the functions of the commission and shall fix, with the approval of the commission, their duties and compensation. The commission bylaws shall provide for personnel policies and programs. The commission may establish and maintain, independently of or in conjunction with any one or more of the member states, a suitable retirement system for its full-time employees. Employees of the commission shall be eligible for social security coverage in respect of old age and survivors insurance provided that the commission takes such steps as may be necessary pursuant to federal law to participate in such program of insurance as a governmental agency or unit. The commission may establish and maintain or participate in such additional programs of employee benefits as may be appropriate. The commission may borrow, accept or contract for the services of personnel from any state, the United States, or any other governmental entity.

(7) *Donations and grants.* The commission may accept for any of its purposes and functions any and all donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials and services, conditional or otherwise, from any governmental entity, and may utilize and dispose of the same.

(8) *Offices.* The commission may establish one or more offices for the transacting of its business.

(9) *Bylaws.* The commission shall adopt bylaws for the conduct of its business. The commission shall publish its bylaws in convenient form, and shall file a copy of the bylaws and any amendments thereto with the appropriate agency or officer in each of the member states.

(10) *Reports to member states.* The commission annually shall make to the governor and legislature of each member state a report covering its activities for the preceding year. Any donation or grant accepted by the commission or services borrowed shall be reported in the annual report of the commission, and shall include the nature, amount and conditions, if any, of the donation, gift, grant or services borrowed and the identity of the donor or lender. The commission may make additional reports as it may deem desirable.

(b) Committees

(1) The commission may establish such committees from its membership as its bylaws may provide for the carrying out of its functions.

Article IV. — Powers and Duties of Commission

(a) The commission shall conduct comprehensive and continuing studies and investigations of agricultural grain marketing practices, procedures and controls and their relationship to and effect upon the citizens and economies of the member states.

(b) The commission shall make recommendations for the correction of weaknesses and solutions to problems in the present system of agricultural grain marketing or the development of alternatives thereto, including the development, drafting, and recommendation of proposed state or federal legislation.

(c) The commission may apply by a majority vote of all of the members of such commission to any state or federal court having power to issue compulsory process for an order to require by subpoena the attendance of any person or by subpoena duces tecum the production of any records in addition to orders in aid of its powers and responsibilities, pursuant to this compact, and any and all such courts shall have jurisdiction to issue such orders. All testimony required by subpoena shall be under oath. Failure of any person to obey any such order shall be punishable as contempt of the issuing court. If the party or subject matter on account of which the commission seeks an order is within the jurisdiction of the court to which application is made, such application may be to a court in a state in which the commission maintains an office or a court in the state in which the person or object of the order being sought is situated. The chairperson or vice-chairperson of the commission (or any member thereof so authorized by such commission) may administer oaths or affirmations for the purpose of receiving testimony. Whenever testimony is given by any person subpoenaed under the provisions of this subsection, a verbatim record shall be made thereof by a certified shorthand reporter and the transcript of such record shall be filed with the commission.

(d) The commission is hereby authorized to do all things necessary and incidental to the administration of its functions under this compact.

Article V. — Finance

(a) *Budget.* The commission shall submit to the governor of each member state a budget of its estimated expenditures for such period as may be required by the laws of that state for presentation to the legislature thereof.

(b) *Appropriations by member states.* The moneys necessary to finance the general operations of the commission not otherwise provided for in carrying forth its duties, responsibilities and powers as stated herein shall be appropriated to the commission by the member states, when authorized by the respective legislatures. Appropriations by member states for the financing of the operations of the commission in the initial biennium of the compact shall be in the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for each member state; thereafter the total amount of appropriations requested shall be apportioned among the member states in the manner determined by the commission.

(c) *Incurring obligations and pledge of credit.* The commission shall not incur any obligations of any kind prior to the making of

appropriations adequate to meet the same; nor shall the commission pledge the credit of any of the member states, except by and with the authority of the member state.

(d) *Accounts; audits.* The commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the commission.

(e) *Accounts; examination.* The accounts of the commission shall be open for inspection at any reasonable time.

Article VI. — Eligible Parties, Entry Into Force, Withdrawal and Termination

(a) *Eligible parties.* Any agricultural grain marketing state may become a member of this compact.

(b) *Entry into force.* This compact shall become effective initially when enacted into law by any five states prior to July 1, 1981, and in additional states upon their enactment of the same into law.

(c) *Withdrawal.* Any member state may withdraw from this compact by enacting a statute repealing the compact, but such withdrawal shall not become effective until one year after the enactment of such statute and the notification of the commission thereof by the governor of the withdrawing state. A withdrawing state shall be liable for any obligations which it incurred on account of its membership up to the effective date of withdrawal, and if the withdrawing state has specifically undertaken or committed itself to any performance of an obligation extending beyond the effective date of withdrawal, it shall remain liable to the extent of such obligation.

(d) *Termination.* This compact shall terminate one year after the notification of withdrawal by the governor of any member state which reduces the total membership in the compact to less than five states.

History: L. 1979, ch. 1, § 1; April 25.