



NEWS RELEASE

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Senate approves bill to promote renewable energy development *Bill would create grant program for biomass infrastructure projects*

INDIANAPOLIS— The Senate voted unanimously today to approve House Bill (HB) 1261 sponsored by State Senator Bob Deig (D-Mount Vernon). The proposal would award grants from the agricultural biomass infrastructure grant fund for infrastructure projects, including the purchase of renewable fuel compatible fueling stations or renovations to a fueling station that is not renewable fuel compatible.

Biomass means agriculturally based sources of renewable energy such as agricultural crops, agricultural wastes and residues, wood and wood byproducts, animal wastes, aquatic plants and algae.

“It is exciting to see this bill promoting renewable energy move through the legislative process,” said Deig. “It would create the ability for these grants to help biomass producers in the state by giving them the ability to build the infrastructure needed to produce and deliver biomass and biofuels.”

HB 1261 would help to promote projects to create the renewable energy system infrastructure necessary for the production and distribution of biomass and biofuels in the state. The grants would be awarded to only those infrastructure expenses incurred after December 31, 2008, and is capped at 50 percent of the recipient’s investment or \$100,000.

The House of Representatives originally voted unanimously to approve the initiative. The bill will now return to the House where Senate changes to the bill will be considered.

For more information on Sen. Deig, his legislative agenda or other State Senate business call 1-800-382-9467 or visit www.senatedemocrats.in.gov.

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