

**HB 2790 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**  
**House Committee On Agriculture and Land Use**

**Carrier:** Rep. Smith Warner

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**Action Date:** 04/04/19

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 7-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 7 - Boshart Davis, Clem, Helm, McLain, Post, Smith DB, Williams

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/12, 4/4

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Expands the definition of "outdoor mass gathering" to allow gatherings to continue beyond 120 hours only for the purpose of providing adequate time for ingress and egress from a gathering located on lands zoned for exclusive farm use, provided that the gathering is located at least 60 miles away from an interstate highway. Allows counties to require a land use permit for any outdoor mass gathering, and allows counties to authorize outdoor mass gatherings that are expected to exceed the allowable time, provided that certain conditions are met. Allows a hearings officer, county planning commission, or county designee to approve or deny permit applications. Prohibits counties from requiring an outdoor mass gathering permit for events permitted under other statutes related to uses on lands zoned for exclusive farm use.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Overview of outdoor mass gathering statutes and rules
- Positive local economic impact of certain large festivals
- Farming operation impacts and traffic challenges caused by outdoor mass gatherings
- Flexibility for counties to impose conditions on outdoor mass gatherings through the land use process
- Liability insurance considerations

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Replaces the measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

An "outdoor mass gathering" is currently defined as an assembly of more than 3,000 persons which continues for more than one day but less than 5 days within any three-month period, and which is held primarily in open spaces and not in a permanent structure.

House Bill 2790 A would: allow counties to require a land use permit for an outdoor mass gathering and to authorize outdoor mass gatherings that are expected to exceed the allowable time; prohibit counties from requiring an outdoor mass gathering permit for events permitted under other statutes related to uses on lands zoned for exclusive farm use; allow a hearings officer, county planning commission, or county designee to approve or deny permit applications; and expand the definition of outdoor mass gathering to provide adequate time for ingress and egress.