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## DIGEST

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HB 431 Engrossed

2017 Regular Session

Schexnayder

**Abstract:** Expands and clarifies the purposes of a co-operative marketing association.

Present law declares that the purpose of co-operative marketing associations is to promote, foster, and encourage the intelligent and orderly marketing of agricultural products through co-operation; to eliminate speculation, unnecessary middlemen, and waste; to make the distribution of agricultural products as direct as can be efficiently done between producer and consumer; and to stabilize the marketing of agricultural products.

Proposed law changes present law by declaring that the sole purpose of co-operative marketing associations is to promote, foster, and encourage intelligent and orderly marketing of agricultural products through co-operation.

Present law provides that an association may be organized to engage in any activity in connection with the marketing or selling of the agricultural products of its members, or with the harvesting, preserving, drying, processing, manufacturing, canning, packing, grading, storing, handling, shipping, or utilizing thereof, or the manufacturing or marketing of by-products thereof; or in connection with the manufacturing, selling, or supplying to its members of machinery, equipment or supplies; or more of the activities specified herein; or in the financing of the above enumerated activities.

Proposed law modifies present law by adding that an association may be organized to represent the interest of its members or for any lawful activity for which corporations may be formed under the laws of the state of La.

Present law grants each association incorporated under present law the power to engage in any activity in connection with the marketing, selling, harvesting, preserving, drying, processing, manufacturing, canning, packing, grading, storing, handling, or utilization of any agricultural product produced or delivered to it by its members; or the manufacturing or marketing of the by-products thereof; or in connection with the purchase, hiring, or use by its members of supplies, machinery, or equipment, or in the financing of any such activities.

Proposed law modifies present law by also granting each association incorporated under present law the power to represent the interest of its members or engage in any activity for which corporations may be formed under the laws of the state of La.

(Amends R.S. 3:121, 124, and 125(1))

