
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2592 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY HANBIDGE, KOSIEROWSKI, GALLOWAY, DRISCOLL, ROZZI,
SANCHEZ, YOUNGBLOOD, SAPPEY, READSHAW, MERSKI, DELLOSO,
GAINEY, PASHINSKI, MALAGARI, SCHWEYER AND TOMLINSON,
JUNE 15, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS,
JUNE 15, 2020

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in Agriculture Rapid Response Disaster Readiness
3 Account, further providing for eligible disaster funding and
4 for Agriculture Rapid Response Disaster Readiness Account.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Sections 11104 and 11107(a) of Title 3 of the
8 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, added July 1, 2019 (P.L.251,
9 No.35), are amended to read:

10 § 11104. Eligible disaster funding.

11 Purposes for which money from the account may be used by the
12 department shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

13 (1) To mitigate, contain, control, eradicate, prevent or
14 limit the spread of any of the following if the secretary
15 determines any of the following poses an immediate danger to
16 public or animal health, food safety or economic well-being
17 in this Commonwealth:

- 1 (i) Transmissible disease.
- 2 (ii) Hazardous substance contamination.
- 3 (iii) Plant pests.
- 4 (iv) Invasive species.
- 5 (v) Plant diseases.
- 6 (vi) Noxious weeds.
- 7 (vii) Controlled plants.
- 8 (viii) Foodborne illness.

9 (2) To assist in providing transportation of livestock
10 feed from a commercial feed establishment in the event of a
11 disaster declaration issued by the Governor that includes the
12 department.

13 (2.1) To make grants to livestock feed sellers and
14 livestock producers for economic loss as a result of the
15 proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on
16 March 6, 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020),
17 and any renewal of the state of disaster emergency, which
18 grants shall be paid from the restricted account established
19 under section 11107(a)(2) (relating to Agriculture Rapid
20 Response Disaster Readiness Account). No grant issued under
21 this paragraph may exceed \$10,000 in a 12-month period.

22 (3) To make grants for and acquire data regarding any
23 item under paragraph (1). No more than \$100,000 may be used
24 for this purpose in a year.

25 (4) To provide additional financial assistance as may be
26 requested in a declaration of disaster issued by the Governor
27 that includes the department.

28 (5) To provide up to \$250,000 annually to animal
29 response teams recognized and approved by the Pennsylvania
30 Emergency Management Agency for planning, developing and

1 maintaining animal response and rescue capabilities
2 consistent with standards and guidelines established by the
3 agency in conjunction with the department.

4 § 11107. Agriculture Rapid Response Disaster Readiness Account.

5 (a) Establishment.--

6 (1) The Agriculture Rapid Response Disaster Readiness
7 Account is established as a special nonlapsing account in the
8 State Treasury. All money allocated to or supplements to the
9 account and the interest collected on money and supplements
10 shall be paid into the account. All money placed into the
11 account and the interest the account accrues are appropriated
12 to the department on a continuing basis for activities
13 necessary to meet the requirements of this chapter.

14 (2) A restricted account is established in the account
15 to be used for grants under section 11104(2.1) (relating to
16 eligible disaster funding). The account shall consist of
17 money appropriated or transferred to the account, including
18 any portion of money received by the Commonwealth under the
19 "CARES Act," The Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and
20 Economic Security Act (Public Law 116-136).

21 * * *

22 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.