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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1076 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY HAYWOOD, HUGHES, SCHWANK, FONTANA, FARNESE,  
MENSCH, COSTA AND AUMENT, APRIL 6, 2018

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REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, APRIL 6, 2018

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of October 27, 2006 (P.L.1186, No.124),  
2 entitled "An act establishing a farmers' market development  
3 grant program to develop or expand farmers' markets;  
4 conferring powers and duties on the Department of  
5 Agriculture; and providing for funding," further providing  
6 for the Farmers' Market Development Grant Program, for  
7 limitations on grants and for funding.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Sections 3, 4 and 21 of the act of October 27,  
11 2006 (P.L.1186, No.124), known as the Farmers' Market  
12 Development Act, are amended to read:

13 Section 3. Farmers' Market Development Grant Program.

14 (a) Authorization.--The department is authorized to  
15 establish a program to award grants for the purpose of  
16 developing or expanding farmers' markets.

17 (b) Eligibility.--Eligible applicants shall be located  
18 within this Commonwealth and may include any of the following:

19 (1) Farmers.

20 (2) Nonprofit organizations.

1 (3) Businesses or associations that manage or operate  
2 farmers' markets.

3 (4) Local government units.

4 (c) Usage of grants.--Grants may be used for any of the  
5 following:

6 (1) The cost of developing a business plan for a new  
7 farmers' market.

8 (2) Predevelopment costs associated with opening a new  
9 farmers' market, including site selection, demographic  
10 research, farmer recruitment and sales potential analysis.

11 (3) Promotion of an existing farmers' market through  
12 marketing materials, media outreach and advertising.

13 (4) Staffing costs to manage and operate a farmers'  
14 market.

15 (5) The purchase of tables, stands and other display  
16 materials for use in a farmers' market.

17 (6) The provision of nutrition education materials or  
18 educational materials about Pennsylvania farm products to  
19 program participants.

20 (7) The conduct of outreach to program participants to  
21 increase participation in existing food assistance programs.

22 (8) Agritourism initiatives.

23 (9) The construction of new farmers' markets.

24 (10) The improvement or rehabilitation of existing  
25 farmers' markets.

26 (11) Purchase, acquisition and rehabilitation of land or  
27 property for use as a farmers' market.

28 (12) Establishing satellite locations of existing  
29 farmers' markets designed to increase sales in underserved  
30 areas.

1           (13) Business development and management, including  
2           professional development.

3           (14) The acquisition of equipment for farmers' markets  
4           and other infrastructure needs.

5 Section 4. Limitations on grants.

6       (a) Limit.--The maximum amount of a grant per a farmers'  
7 market location shall be [\$10,000] \$100,000. Grants in lesser  
8 amounts may be approved until the cumulative total maximum grant  
9 amount is awarded.

10       (b) Grant matching.--

11           (1) Except as set forth in paragraph (2), each applicant  
12 shall provide at least [10%] 5% of the grant amount in  
13 matching funds or in-kind goods or services.

14           (2) The requirement of paragraph (1) may be waived by  
15 the secretary for a project [to serve an underserved area] if  
16 the secretary determines that the waiver will further the  
17 purposes of this act.

18       (c) Conditions.--The secretary may approve a grant in an  
19 amount less than that requested and may impose restrictions or  
20 special conditions upon issuance of a grant.

21 Section 21. Funding.

22       [Grants shall be awarded to the extent that funds are  
23 appropriated by the General Assembly.] Beginning with fiscal  
24 year 2018-2019, and each fiscal year thereafter, the sum of  
25 \$2,500,000 shall be annually appropriated by the General  
26 Assembly for purposes of funding grants authorized under this  
27 act.

28       Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.