



## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

# FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1037

PRINTERS NO. 1836

PRIME SPONSOR: Lawrence

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Municipal Funds	\$0	\$0

**SUMMARY:** Amends the PA Construction Code Act (Act 45 of 1999) to exempt historic agricultural buildings, when used for private events and meeting certain safety provisions, from the provisions of the Uniform Construction Code (UCC). This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

**ANALYSIS:** This legislation amends the PA Construction Code Act to exclude historic agricultural buildings from the UCC, under certain circumstances. An “historic agricultural building” is newly defined as a building originally constructed as an agricultural building prior to January 1, 1980 which may now be used for private events, such as weddings, receptions, meetings, demonstrations of farm activities and similar social events.

An historic agricultural building will only be exempt if the owner of the building files with the municipality a report completed by a third-party agency which states the structure is in compliance with the following:

- UCC requirements for smoke alarm systems and fire extinguishers
- Egress standards for historic buildings as required by International Existing Building Code
- UCC electrical provisions
- The design strength of each area in which the event is taking place within the structure meets the requirements in the ICC's International Existing Building Code and is able to support the maximum occupant load

There is an exemption for the installation of an automatic sprinkler system, which is currently required by the UCC.

The owner must also file with the municipality a signed affidavit stating all of the following:

- Smoking is prohibited inside and within 50 feet of the structure.
- Open flame is prohibited inside and within 50 feet of the structure, not to include flames from jellied alcohol products intended to heat food or no more than three candles for a wedding ceremony.
- The structure does not contain an oven.
- The owner maintains liability insurance for the structure, written and issued by an insurer authorized to do business in the Commonwealth.
- The owner has taken reasonable and prudent measures to install barriers or prevent access to any feature of the historic agricultural building that presents an immediate risk of injury resulting from falling a distance of five feet or more.

Penalties and fines may occur if the owner does not file inspections reports or affidavits with the municipality.

Violations for not filing the required inspection report and affidavit may result in a summary offense with a fine of up to \$1,000 plus costs.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** This legislation would have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth or municipal funds.

**PREPARED BY:** Tim Rodrigo  
House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** May 15, 2019

*Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*