

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 562

PRINTER'S NO. 2029

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General

DATE INTRODUCED

February 9, 2011

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Gillen

HISTORY OF BILL

Referred to AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, Feb. 9, 2011

Reported as committed, Feb. 15, 2011

First consideration, Feb. 15, 2011

Laid on the table, Feb. 15, 2011

Removed from table, Feb. 28, 2011

Second consideration, March 1, 2011

Re-committed to APPROPRIATIONS, March 1, 2011

Re-reported as committed, March 7, 2011

Third consideration and final passage, March 7, 2011 (193-0)

(Remarks see House Journal Page 341), March 7, 2011

In the Senate

Referred to AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, March 11, 2011

Reported as amended, June 14, 2011

First consideration, June 14, 2011

Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, June 22, 2011

Re-reported as committed, June 29, 2011

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

House Bill 562 makes the following changes to the Agricultural Area Security Law (Act 43 of 1981):

- (1) Provides for a definition of "contiguous acreage," which allows for property divided by a railroad to be eligible for an agricultural conservation easement (farmland preservation) and abrogates the current definition in regulations;
- (2) Repeals existing provisions which allow for the sale of land subject to an easement to help ensure easements are perpetual; and,
- (3) Adds new language to allow for underground mining of noncoal minerals on land subject to an easement.

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

FISCAL NOTE

The provisions related to the definition of "contiguous acreage" acreage and underground mining of noncoal minerals take effect immediately. The remainder of the act takes effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The enactment of the provisions contained in House Bill 562 will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.