

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 1171

**PRINTER NO.** 1779

**AMOUNT**

No Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

May 18, 2018

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Brooks

**DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill 1171 amends Titles 3 (Agriculture) and 27 (Environmental Resources) by replacing the Nutrient Management Advisory Board under the Conservation Commission with a new Farm Animal Advisory Board (board) under the Department of Environmental Protection.

The bill authorizes the board to provide advice regarding animal operations, advice on nutrient management, assist in the development of regulatory standards affecting animal operations and assist in providing comments for regulatory proposals. The bill would also allow the board to initiate and offer advice and expertise to state agency officials on matters being contemplated for future regulation.

The bill establishes the makeup of the board as follows:

- Four individuals that own or operate an animal operation;
- Five general CAFO permittees or operators;
- Two individual CAFO permittees; and
- Four ex officio, nonvoting members as follows:
  - A Penn State University faculty member with expertise in agronomy;
  - A Penn State University faculty member with expertise in animal science;
  - A deputy secretary from the Department of Agriculture; and
  - A deputy secretary from the Department of Environmental Protection.

The legislation is scheduled to take effect in 60 days.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Because the role and size of the Farm Animal Advisory Board are similar in nature to the Nutrient Management Advisory Board which it is replacing, the enactment of Senate Bill 1171 should have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The operations of the Nutrient Management Advisory Board are estimated to cost between \$12,000 and \$15,000 annually.