

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 736

PRINTER NO. 840

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

Motor License Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

June 4, 2021

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Langerholc

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 736 amends Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to further provide for the use of farm vehicle registration plates.

This legislation amends section 1344 (relating to use of farm vehicle plates) by providing that a truck or truck tractor bearing farm vehicle registration plates may be operated upon highways between a farm or farms and a place of residence for the purpose of buying or selling agricultural commodities or supplies, regardless of whether the vehicle is operated by the registrant of the vehicle or an employee of the registrant of the vehicle.

Current law only provides for the operation between a farm or farms and a place of business.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

According to information provided by the department, enactment of Senate Bill 736 will result in a reduction in Commonwealth funds as additional vehicles receive a reduced registration fee under this legislation. According to vehicle registration data provided by the department, there are approximately 9,600 farm trucks or truck tractors utilizing farm vehicle registration plates, categorized into 25 separate weight classes.

The registration fees for most weight classes increase as vehicle weight increases, and the cost difference between a regular registration plate and a farm vehicle registration plate escalates accordingly. The total one-year cost difference between regular registration plates and farm vehicle registration plates for the approximately 9,600 farm vehicles currently registered is nearly \$2.4 million. Therefore, the average cost difference between a regular registration plate and a farm registration plate is \$250 annually. For every 100 vehicles used to buy or sell agricultural commodities at a place of residence for which the legislation authorizes the use of farm registration plates instead of regular registration plates, the Motor License Fund will realize \$25,000 less revenue, on average.