

# **SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE**

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 690

**PRINTER NO.** 714

**AMOUNT**

No Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

May 5, 2023

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Yaw

**DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill 690 amends the Dam Safety and Encroachments Act to provide for county conservation district stream reconstruction emergency permit authorizations.

This bill allows a county conservation district with an approved delegation agreement for the Water Obstruction and Encroachment Program to request an amendment for the purposes of having methodologies for stream reconstruction activities in response to or in anticipation of significant flood events reviewed by the Department of Environmental Protection (the department).

Upon approval of methodologies by the department, the county conservation district may request the authority to issue emergency permits for stream reconstruction. The department may not unreasonably withhold the authority, and the authority shall only include emergency stream reconstruction which may prevent a flooding emergency event in the future.

The department shall develop a stream reconstruction emergency permit form and provide notice of all approved amendments in the Pennsylvania Bulletin. An aggrieved person may appeal the amendment approval within 30 days of the notice being published. The department shall have 60 days to provide notice to each county conservation district of the availability of the amendment provided for in this legislation.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Senate Bill 690 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. Any administrative or operating costs can be accommodated within the department's current funding levels related to the pilot program addressing stream maintenance and other stormwater and floodplain management programs.