
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 170 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY HAYWOOD, HUGHES, SCHWANK, FONTANA, FARNESE,
STREET, SANTARSIERO, LEACH, AUMENT, BREWSTER, COSTA, MENSCH,
ARGALL, LAUGHLIN, STEFANO, BLAKE AND TARTAGLIONE,
APRIL 5, 2019

REFERRED TO AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, APRIL 5, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of October 27, 2006 (P.L.1186, No.124),
2 entitled "An act establishing a farmers' market development
3 grant program to develop or expand farmers' markets;
4 conferring powers and duties on the Department of
5 Agriculture; and providing for funding," further providing
6 for the Farmers' Market Development Grant Program, for
7 limitations on grants and for funding.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Sections 3, 4 and 21 of the act of October 27,
11 2006 (P.L.1186, No.124), known as the Farmers' Market
12 Development Act, are amended to read:

13 Section 3. Farmers' Market Development Grant Program.

14 (a) Authorization.--The department is authorized to
15 establish a program to award grants for the purpose of
16 developing or expanding farmers' markets.

17 (b) Eligibility.--Eligible applicants shall be located
18 within this Commonwealth and may include any of the following:

19 (1) Farmers.

1 (2) Nonprofit organizations.

2 (3) Businesses or associations that manage or operate
3 farmers' markets.

4 (4) Local government units.

5 (c) Usage of grants.--Grants may be used for any of the
6 following:

7 (1) The cost of developing a business plan for a new
8 farmers' market.

9 (2) Predevelopment costs associated with opening a new
10 farmers' market, including site selection, demographic
11 research, farmer recruitment and sales potential analysis.

12 (3) Promotion of an existing farmers' market through
13 marketing materials, media outreach and advertising.

14 (4) Staffing costs to manage and operate a farmers'
15 market.

16 (5) The purchase of tables, stands and other display
17 materials for use in a farmers' market.

18 (6) The provision of nutrition education materials or
19 educational materials about Pennsylvania farm products to
20 program participants.

21 (7) The conduct of outreach to program participants to
22 increase participation in existing food assistance programs.

23 (8) Agritourism initiatives.

24 (9) The construction of new farmers' markets.

25 (10) The improvement or rehabilitation of existing
26 farmers' markets.

27 (11) Purchase, acquisition and rehabilitation of land or
28 property for use as a farmers' market.

29 (12) Establishing satellite locations of existing
30 farmers' markets designed to increase sales in underserved

1 areas.

2 (13) Business development and management, including
3 professional development.

4 (14) The acquisition of equipment for farmers' markets
5 and other infrastructure needs.

6 Section 4. Limitations on grants.

7 (a) Limit.--The maximum amount of a grant per a farmers'
8 market location shall be ~~[\$10,000]~~ \$100,000. Grants in lesser
9 amounts may be approved until the cumulative total maximum grant
10 amount is awarded.

11 (b) Grant matching.--

12 (1) Except as set forth in paragraph (2), each applicant
13 shall provide at least ~~[10%]~~ 5% of the grant amount in
14 matching funds or in-kind goods or services.

15 (2) The requirement of paragraph (1) may be waived by
16 the secretary for a project ~~[to serve an underserved area]~~ if
17 the secretary determines that the waiver will further the
18 purposes of this act.

19 (c) Conditions.--The secretary may approve a grant in an
20 amount less than that requested and may impose restrictions or
21 special conditions upon issuance of a grant.

22 Section 21. Funding.

23 ~~[Grants shall be awarded to the extent that funds are~~
24 ~~appropriated by the General Assembly.]~~ Beginning with fiscal
25 year 2019-2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, the sum of
26 \$2,500,000 shall be annually appropriated by the General
27 Assembly for purposes of funding grants authorized under this
28 act.

29 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.