
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 899 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY HANBIDGE, SANCHEZ, MADDEN, HOWARD, LONGIETTI,
KENYATTA, McNEILL, GUENST, ROZZI, MALAGARI, GALLOWAY, BURGOS,
SAPPEY AND CONKLIN, MARCH 15, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS,
MARCH 15, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in Agriculture Rapid Response Disaster Readiness
3 Account, further providing for eligible disaster funding and
4 for Agriculture Rapid Response Disaster Readiness Account.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Sections 11104 and 11107(a) of Title 3 of the
8 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

9 § 11104. Eligible disaster funding.

10 Purposes for which money from the account may be used by the
11 department shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

12 (1) To mitigate, contain, control, eradicate, prevent or
13 limit the spread of any of the following if the secretary
14 determines any of the following poses an immediate danger to
15 public or animal health, food safety or economic well-being
16 in this Commonwealth:

17 (i) Transmissible disease.

18 (ii) Hazardous substance contamination.

- 1 (iii) Plant pests.
- 2 (iv) Invasive species.
- 3 (v) Plant diseases.
- 4 (vi) Noxious weeds.
- 5 (vii) Controlled plants.
- 6 (viii) Foodborne illness.

7 (2) To assist in providing transportation of livestock
8 feed from a commercial feed establishment in the event of a
9 disaster declaration issued by the Governor that includes the
10 department.

11 (2.1) To make grants to livestock feed sellers and
12 livestock producers for economic loss as a result of the
13 proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on
14 March 6, 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020),
15 and any renewal of the state of disaster emergency. The
16 following apply:

17 (i) The grants shall be paid from the restricted
18 account established under section 11107(a)(2) (relating
19 to Agriculture Rapid Response Disaster Readiness
20 Account).

21 (ii) A grant issued under this paragraph shall not
22 exceed \$10,000 in a 12-month period.

23 (3) To make grants for and acquire data regarding any
24 item under paragraph (1). No more than \$100,000 may be used
25 for this purpose in a year.

26 (4) To provide additional financial assistance as may be
27 requested in a declaration of disaster issued by the Governor
28 that includes the department.

29 (5) To provide up to \$250,000 annually to animal
30 response teams recognized and approved by the Pennsylvania

1 Emergency Management Agency for planning, developing and
2 maintaining animal response and rescue capabilities
3 consistent with standards and guidelines established by the
4 agency in conjunction with the department.

5 § 11107. Agriculture Rapid Response Disaster Readiness Account.

6 (a) Establishment.--

7 (1) The Agriculture Rapid Response Disaster Readiness
8 Account is established as a special nonlapsing account in the
9 State Treasury. All money allocated to or supplements to the
10 account and the interest collected on money and supplements
11 shall be paid into the account. All money placed into the
12 account and the interest the account accrues are appropriated
13 to the department on a continuing basis for activities
14 necessary to meet the requirements of this chapter.

15 (2) A restricted account is established in the account
16 to be used for grants under section 11104(2.1) (relating to
17 eligible disaster funding). The restricted account shall
18 consist of money appropriated or transferred to the
19 restricted account from the Budget Stabilization Reserve
20 Fund.

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22 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.