

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa>

sHB-5064

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GRANT PROGRAM FOR
AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND FARMLAND ACCESS
PURPOSES.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Department of Agriculture	GF - Potential Cost	215,130	215,130
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Potential Cost	83,508	83,508
Department of Agriculture	GF - Potential Cost	Significant	Significant

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a potential significant annual cost to the Department of Agriculture (DoAG), beginning in FY 26, associated with the establishment of a new grant program to fund various agricultural land preservation. The bill allows but does not require DoAG to establish and administer the new grant program.

DoAG does not currently have the staff to establish and administer the new grant program and would require two new full-time positions, including: one Grant and Contract Specialist (annual salary of \$103,227) and one Property Agent 2 (annual salary of \$101,903). The additional full-time positions would result in a total cost of \$205,130

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 40.71% of payroll in FY 26.

(corresponding fringe benefits of \$83,508) and approximately \$10,000 in other expenses.

Additionally, DoAG would require additional grant funding, for selected grantees. It is estimated, based on similar programs, that an average eligible grant award would range from \$500,000 to \$1.5 million. The total cost of the grants would vary based on the number of grantees and the amount of each award.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation and the amount of grants awarded annually.