



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Committee Bill No. 5064

LCO No. 3546



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING AN OPTION TO PURCHASE RESTRICTED AGRICULTURAL LANDS AT AGRICULTURAL VALUE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) The Department of
2 Agriculture, within available appropriations, may establish and
3 administer a grant program for the purpose of providing grants to hold
4 land for agricultural preservation purposes by any: (1) Agricultural not-
5 for-profit organization qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal
6 Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal
7 revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time; (2)
8 municipality; (3) group of municipalities; (4) regional council of
9 governments organized under the provisions of sections 4-124i to 4-
10 124p, inclusive, of the general statutes; or (5) group of municipalities
11 that have established a regional interlocal agreement pursuant to
12 sections 7-339a to 7-339l, inclusive, of the general statutes. In carrying
13 out such purpose, any such grant may be expended for any of the
14 following uses: (A) The acquisition of options to purchase land at such
15 land's agricultural use value, (B) purchasing any interest in land that
16 requires such land to be restricted for agricultural use, or (C) developing
17 farmland access and affordability programs, other than such programs

18 that may exist as of the effective date of this section. No grant recipient
19 shall utilize a grant distributed pursuant to such program for any
20 purpose that conflicts with the preservation of farmland, as set forth in
21 chapter 422 of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	July 1, 2025	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To encourage and provide for the retention of agricultural lands for agricultural purposes.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. GRESKO, 121st Dist.; REP. BUMGARDNER, 41st Dist.

H.B. 5064