



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Committee Bill No. 6273

LCO No. 4866



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING FUNDING FOR FARMERS WHO HAVE CROP LOSS DUE TO SIGNIFICANT ACUTE WEATHER EVENTS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) There is established the
2 Farmers' Crop Loss Reimbursement Grant Program within the
3 Department of Agriculture. The purpose of such program shall be to
4 reimburse farmers in the state who incur crop loss attributable to
5 significant acute weather events. The department shall establish the
6 parameters of such grant program, including, but not limited to, (1)
7 eligibility criteria for such farmers, (2) prioritization rules for the use of
8 funds available to said department for such program, (3) maximum
9 reimbursement amounts under such program, (4) designation of
10 significant acute weather events that trigger eligibility for such
11 reimbursement under the program, and (5) the application process for
12 any such reimbursement request. Any application received by the
13 department pursuant to such program shall be acted upon by the
14 department not later than sixty days after receipt.

15 (b) Upon the development of the parameters of such grant program,
16 the department shall post information concerning such program,

17 including all such parameters, on the department's Internet web site.

18 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) For the purposes described in
19 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have the
20 power from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state
21 in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in the
22 aggregate ten million dollars.

23 (b) The proceeds of the sale of such bonds, to the extent of the amount
24 stated in subsection (a) of this section, shall be used by the Department
25 of Agriculture for the purpose of providing reimbursement to farmers
26 in accordance with the Farmers' Crop Loss Reimbursement Program
27 established in section 1 of this act.

28 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the exercise
29 of any right or power granted thereby, that are not inconsistent with the
30 provisions of this section are hereby adopted and shall apply to all
31 bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission pursuant to this
32 section. Temporary notes in anticipation of the money to be derived
33 from the sale of any such bonds so authorized may be issued in
34 accordance with section 3-20 of the general statutes and from time to
35 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not
36 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided
37 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond
38 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of such bonds shall be
39 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that
40 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization that is signed
41 by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management
42 and states such terms and conditions as said commission, in its
43 discretion, may require. Such bonds issued pursuant to this section shall
44 be general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit of the state
45 of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the principal of and
46 interest on such bonds as the same become due, and accordingly and as
47 part of the contract of the state with the holders of such bonds,
48 appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual payment of such

49 principal and interest is hereby made, and the State Treasurer shall pay
50 such principal and interest as the same become due.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To help mitigate the hardship on farmers resulting from the loss of a crop due to a devastating one-time weather event.

[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. CANDELORA V., 86th Dist.; SEN. COHEN, 12th Dist.
REP. BUMGARDNER, 41st Dist.

H.B. 6273