

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 157

PRINTER NO. 1030

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

March 8, 2023

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Pashinski

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 157 amends Title 3 (Agriculture) to authorize the development of a PA Preferred Organic trademark within the Department of Agriculture.

This legislation allows the Department of Agriculture to establish a PA Preferred Organic trademark for use by qualifying producers, processors and marketers of organic agricultural commodities. Use of the trademark is voluntary for organic producers in Pennsylvania.

The development and use of the trademark is similar to the existing PA Preferred marketing program. A person licensed to use the organic trademark must meet or exceed the organic certification standards as required by the USDA National Organic Production Program.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This legislation will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

Any potential costs incurred by the Department of Agriculture related to the PA Preferred Organic trademark program may be recouped through charges on applicable licensees. Funds collected and deposited into the PA Preferred Trademark and the PA Preferred Organic Trademark Licensing Fund will be used to administer the program.