

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2309 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY KINKEAD, KHAN, GIRAL, HILL-EVANS, SANCHEZ, NEILSON, CERRATO, CONKLIN, ZIMMERMAN AND DALEY, MAY 21, 2024

AS AMENDED ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 10, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 3 (Agriculture) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in crop insurance, further providing for short
3 title of chapter, for purpose of chapter, for definitions,
4 for establishment of program and for powers and duties of
5 department; providing for dairy margin coverage program
6 financial assistance; and making an editorial change.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Chapter 47 heading and sections 4701 and 4702 of
10 Title 3 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to
11 read:

CHAPTER 47

CROP INSURANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT

14 § 4701. Short title of chapter.

15 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the Crop
16 Insurance and Risk Management Act.

17 § 4702. Purpose of chapter.

18 The purpose of this chapter is to establish a program within
19 the department to encourage producers of agricultural

1 commodities to purchase Federal crop insurance and adopt risk  
2 management practices and to provide crop insurance financial  
3 assistance, subject to the availability of funding, to eligible  
4 producers for crop insurance and risk management premium costs.

5 Section 2. The definition of "agricultural commodity" in  
6 section 4703 of Title 3 is amended to read:

7 § 4703. Definitions.

8 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter  
9 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
10 context clearly indicates otherwise:

11 "Agricultural commodity." [Any of the following, transported  
12 or intended to be transported in commerce:

13 (1) Agricultural, aquacultural, horticultural,  
14 floricultural, viticultural or dairy products.

15 (2) Agricultural crops.

16 (3) Livestock and products of livestock.

17 (4) Poultry and products of poultry.

18 (5) Ranch-raised furbearing animals and the products of  
19 ranch-raised furbearing animals.

20 (6) The products of bee raising.

21 (7) Forestry and forestry products.

22 (8) Any products raised or produced on farms intended  
23 for on farm or human consumption and the processed or  
24 manufactured products of such products intended for human  
25 consumption.] As defined in the act of June 10, 1982

26 (P.L.454, No.133), referred to as the Right-to-Farm Law.

27 \* \* \*

28 Section 3. Sections 4704 and 4705(a) of Title 3 are amended  
29 to read:

30 § 4704. Establishment of program.

1 The department shall establish a program to educate producers  
2 on the benefits of Federal crop insurance and risk management  
3 practices. The program shall promote the purchase of Federal  
4 crop insurance and ~~risk management programs~~ PROGRAM COVERAGE and ~~and~~ <--  
5 may provide financial assistance to eligible producers to  
6 partially offset Federal crop insurance AND RISK MANAGEMENT <--  
7 premiums ~~and risk management programs~~. The provision of <--  
8 financial assistance shall be subject to the availability of  
9 funding.

10 § 4705. Powers and duties of department.

11 (a) Administration of chapter.--Subject to the conditions  
12 contained in this chapter, the department shall administer this  
13 chapter and shall exercise all administrative powers necessary  
14 to effectuate the purposes of this chapter, including, but not  
15 limited to, drafting and entering into agreements necessary to  
16 implement this chapter, establishing eligibility criteria for  
17 crop insurance and risk management financial assistance and  
18 developing an application and application procedure for crop  
19 insurance financial assistance, including time frames for the  
20 submission, review and approval of applications.

21 \* \* \*

22 Section 4. Title 3 is amended by adding a section to read:

23 § 4706.1. Dairy margin coverage program financial assistance.

24 The department may provide financial assistance to producers  
25 that enroll in Federal dairy margin coverage programs in an  
26 amount to be determined by the secretary in years in which money  
27 is appropriated or made available to the department. The  
28 following apply:

29 (1) Funding shall be used to assist producers with  
30 enrolling, initial purchasing and purchasing additional

1 levels of coverage or to offset the cost of participating in  
2 the program, based on availability of funding. THE DEPARTMENT <--  
3 SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO ASSISTING NEW PRODUCERS WITH ENROLLING  
4 AND INITIALLY PURCHASING COVERAGE.

5 (2) The department, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CENTER FOR <--  
6 DAIRY EXCELLENCE, shall develop and establish program  
7 guidelines and eligibility criteria.

8 Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.