

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-5295

AN ACT CONCERNING AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 23 \$	FY 24 \$
Department of Agriculture	GF - Revenue Impact	Potential Minimal	Potential Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 23 \$	FY 24 \$
Various Municipalities	Revenue Loss	Less than \$100	Less than \$100

Explanation

The bill makes various changes to agriculture-related laws.

Section 3 prohibits anyone from selling any agricultural, vegetable, lawn, or turf seed unless it is labeled under current laws. Existing law currently prohibits the sale of unlabeled seeds. It requires seed labelers to register annually with DoAg and sets the registration fee at \$100. A violation of this provision is subject to a fine of \$100 for the first offense and \$200 for each subsequent offense. The bill could result in a minimal revenue gain to the resources of the General Fund associated with new registrations and to the extent violations occur.

Current law requires town clerks to provide free dog licenses and tags for dogs that belong to anyone who is blind, deaf, or mobility-impaired and that have been trained to guide their owner. Currently, \$1 of each dog license flows to municipalities, and \$5 flows to the

general fund. **Section 5** of the bill expands eligibility for free municipal dog licenses if the dog is a therapy animal enrolled in the Animal Assistance Intervention Program administered by the Department of Children and Families (DCF). There are 12 dogs currently enrolled in the DCF program.

The bill makes other changes that are not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact on the state or municipalities.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of new seed registrations, any violations, and the number of dogs enrolled in the DCF program.