



Legislative Council Staff

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Final Fiscal Note

Drafting Number: LLS 22-0982 Date: July 29, 2022
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Donovan; Sonnenberg Bill Status: Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: MODIFICATIONS TO CONSERVATION DISTRICT GRANT FUND

- Summary of Fiscal Impact:
- State Revenue
- State Expenditure
- State Transfer
- TABOR Refund
- Local Government
- Statutory Public Entity

This bill continues the Conservation District Grant Fund in the Department of Agriculture indefinitely and creates a new transfer. Continuation of the fund is assumed to result in continued transfers to the fund beginning in FY 2023-24.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required. The Conservation District Grant Fund is continuously appropriated to the Department of Agriculture.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the enacted bill.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under SB 22-195

Table with 4 columns: Category, Sub-category, Budget Year FY 2022-23, and Out Year FY 2023-24. Rows include Revenue, Expenditures (Cash Funds), Transfers (General Fund, Cash Funds), and Net Transfer.

1The fiscal note assumes that funding will be transferred to the program cash fund each year via an appropriation from the Severance Tax Operational Fund; the amount of the appropriation may be set at the discretion of the General Assembly.

## **Summary of Legislation**

This bill continues the continuously appropriated Conservation District Grant Fund in the Department of Agriculture (CDA) that is set to repeal December 31, 2022, and requires an annual General Fund transfer of \$148,000. The CDA is required to distribute \$2,000 to each of 74 conservation districts annually, beginning September 1, 2022.

## **State Transfers**

Under current law, the Conservation District Grant Fund receives an annual appropriation of up to \$450,000 from the Severance Tax Operational Fund. The fiscal note assumes that with this bill the transfer will continue in FY 2023-24. The March 2022 Legislative Council Staff Economic Forecast indicates that the balance of the Operational Fund will be sufficient to fund the full amount of the transfer.

## **State Expenditures**

The bill will increase annual expenditures by \$148,000 beginning in FY 2022 from the Conservation District Grant Fund to conservation districts. In the FY 2022-23 Long Bill, House Bill 22-1329, \$350,000 from the Conservation District Grant Fund is allocated to the Matching Grants to Districts program in the CDA. The fiscal note assumes this allocation and associated expenditures will continue beginning in FY 2023-24.

## **Local Government**

Conservation districts will each receive an additional \$2,000 per fiscal year for soil and water conservation efforts beginning in FY 2022-23.

## **Effective Date**

The bill was signed into law by the Governor on June 8, 2022, and takes effect August 9, 2022, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

## **State and Local Government Contacts**

Agriculture

Information Technology

Natural Resources