

FY 2023-24: AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
Summary: Conference Report
Article 1, House Bill 4437 (H-1) CR-1



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	FY 2022-23 YTD as of 2/8/23	FY 2023-24 Executive	FY 2023-24 House	FY 2023-24 Senate	FY 2023-24 Conference	Difference: Conference From FY 2022-23 YTD	
						Amount	%
IDG/IDT	\$326,700	\$327,000	\$327,000	\$327,000	\$327,000	\$300	0.1
Federal	19,670,900	19,660,400	19,660,400	19,660,400	29,762,700	10,091,800	51.3
Local	0	0	0	0	0	0	--
Private	21,300	21,300	21,300	21,300	21,300	0	0.0
Restricted	44,706,400	45,219,200	48,819,300	45,219,200	45,719,900	1,013,500	2.3
GF/GP	122,989,800	124,605,100	82,105,100	97,605,500	92,781,800	(30,208,000)	(24.6)
Gross	\$187,715,100	\$189,833,000	\$150,933,100	\$162,833,400	\$168,612,700	(\$19,102,400)	(10.2)
FTEs	537.0	543.0	543.0	548.0	550.0	13.0	2.4

Notes: (1) FY 2022-23 year-to-date figures include mid-year budget adjustments through February 8, 2023. (2) Appropriation figures for all years include all proposed appropriation amounts, including amounts designated as "one-time." (3) "House" means House Bill 4289 (H-1), as passed by the House May 10, 2023. (4) "Senate" means Senate Bill 187 (S-2), as passed by the Senate, May 9, 2023. "Conference" means House Bill 4437 (H-1) CR-1.

Overview

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) key programs and priorities include ensuring food safety and security, protecting animal health and welfare, managing invasive exotic species, regulating pesticide use, certifying agricultural commodities, ensuring environmental stewardship, consumer protection, and promoting the state's agricultural economy.

Major Budget Changes from FY 2022-23 YTD Appropriations

1. Emerging Contaminates in Food and Agriculture

Executive requests \$6.2 million GF/GP, and 6.0 FTE positions, for new ongoing program to identify, respond to, and mitigate emerging contaminants, including PFAS, affecting agriculture and related food industries. House includes but as a one-time funding item. Senate includes at \$6.1 million (\$2.1 million ongoing and \$4.0 million as one-time) – \$100,000 less than the Executive. Conference includes \$4.1 million GF/GP (\$2.1 million ongoing, \$2.0 million one-time).

	FY 2022-23 Year-to-Date (as of 2/8/23)	FY 2023-24 Conference Change
FTE	0.0	6.0
Gross	\$0	\$4,079,900
GF/GP	\$0	\$4,079,900

2. Animal Industry/Laboratory Animal Welfare

Senate includes \$100 placeholder for activities related to Senate Bills 148 and 149 ("Teddy's Law") related to the adoption of animals used in medical research. Conference includes \$500,000 as one-time funding to establish a Laboratory Animal Welfare program and rolls \$200,000 GF/GP into Animal Disease Prevention and Response, with 1.0 FTE authorization increase, to recognize ongoing costs.

	FY 2022-23 Year-to-Date (as of 2/8/23)	FY 2023-24 Conference Change
FTE	62.0	1.0
Gross	\$10,520,900	\$700,000
Federal	1,082,500	0
Private	221,800	0
Restricted	9,216,600	0
GF/GP	\$0	\$700,000

3. Agricultural Climate Resiliency

Conference includes \$7.0 million GF/GP for a new program to promote the principles of regenerative agriculture – \$1.0 million as ongoing within Pesticide and Plant Pest Management (PPPM) Division and \$6.0 million as one-time. Program defined in boilerplate section 503.

	FY 2022-23 Year-to-Date (as of 2/8/23)	FY 2023-24 Conference Change
Gross	\$0	\$7,000,000
GF/GP	\$0	\$7,000,000

4. Soil Health and Regenerative Agriculture

Senate had included \$13.0 million GF/GP for a new grant program. Conference includes \$6.0 million GF/GP for a new grant program – \$1.0 million as ongoing within PPPM with 5.0 FTEs, and \$5.0 million as one-time, defined in boilerplate section 504.

	FY 2022-23 Year-to-Date (as of 2/8/23)	FY 2023-24 Conference Change
FTE	0.0	5.0
Gross	\$0	\$6,000,000
GF/GP	\$0	\$6,000,000

		FY 2022-23 Year-to-Date (as of 2/8/23)	FY 2023-24 Conference Change
<u>Major Budget Changes from FY 2022-23 YTD Appropriations</u>			
5. Local Conservation Districts			
<u>Executive</u> retains \$2.0 million GF/GP in ongoing funding for local conservation districts but removes \$1.0 million GF/GP that had been included as one-time funding. <u>House</u> concurs with Executive. <u>Senate</u> includes \$6.0 million. - \$3.0 million each in ongoing and one-time. <u>Conference</u> retains current year funding of \$3.0 million - \$2.0 million ongoing and \$1.0 million one-time.	Gross	\$3,000,000	\$0
	GF/GP	\$3,000,000	\$0
6. Laboratory Services – Capital Equipment Purchase			
<u>Conference</u> includes \$500,000 from the restricted Gasoline Inspection Fund for capital equipment purchase for the Geagley Laboratory. (This had been a State Budget Office FY 2022-23 transfer request).	FTE	42.5	0.0
	Gross	\$8,282,800	\$500,000
	IDG	231,900	0
	Federal	1,749,900	0
	Restricted	1,640,600	500,000
	GF/GP	\$4,660,400	\$0
7. Fair Food Network – Double Up Food Bucks			
<u>Executive</u> includes \$900,000 GF/GP, same as current year. <u>House</u> concurs with Executive. <u>Senate</u> includes \$4.0 million GF/GP, \$2.0 million each ongoing and one-time. <u>Conference</u> includes \$2.0 million ongoing. Note that Article 16 of the bill provides supplemental FY 2022-23 funding of \$2.0 million GF/GP.	Gross	\$900,000	\$1,100,000
	GF/GP	\$900,000	\$1,100,000
8. Food and Agriculture Supply Chain Investment			
<u>Executive</u> requests \$37.5 million GF/GP (one-time) to address issues related to agriculture and food industry supply chain, including accessibility of cold storage, distribution and processing facilities, and implementation of advanced technologies. Related boilerplate would authorize 1.0 limited-term FTE position to administer the program. <u>House</u> includes \$2.0 million GF/GP for this new and one-time program. <u>Senate</u> does not include. <u>Conference</u> includes \$1.8 million GF/GP total - \$800,000 ongoing with 1.0 FTE position in Agriculture Development, and \$1.0 million one-time.	FTE	0.0	1.0
	Gross	\$0	\$1,800,000
	GF/GP	\$0	\$1,800,000
Note: See related \$10.1 million federal ARP - Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure, Item # 17 below.			
9. Michigan Craft Beverage Council			
<u>Executive</u> recognizes additional revenue in the Michigan Craft Beverage Council Fund to be used in support of Council activities. The fund receives revenue from fees dedicated to the program under Michigan's Liquor Control Code. <u>House</u> includes an additional \$1.0 million GF/GP as one-time funding. <u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive. <u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive and Senate and recognizes additional restricted revenue only with no added GF/GP funding.	FTE	3.0	0.0
	Gross	\$926,100	\$410,000
	Restricted	926,100	410,000
	GF/GP	\$0	\$0
10. Producer Security			
<u>Executive</u> includes \$150,000 in additional restricted fund support for administration of the Farm Produce Insurance Act; the act will have to be amended to raise the current ceiling on administrative expenses. <u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , and <u>Conference</u> concur with Executive.	FTE	5.0	0.0
	Gross	\$754,000	\$150,000
	Restricted	735,200	150,000
	GF/GP	\$18,800	\$0

<u>Major Budget Changes from FY 2022-23 YTD Appropriations</u>		<u>FY 2022-23 Year-to-Date (as of 2/8/23)</u>	<u>FY 2023-24 Conference Change</u>
11. Horse Racing Programs	Gross	\$3,794,200	\$0
<u>Executive</u> : Executive budget revision 2024-1 (State Budget Office letter dated April 18, 2023) retains current year funding for horse racing line items – purses, purse supplements, and breeders' awards – totaling \$3.8 million from the Agriculture Equine Industry Development Fund (AEIDF) – but shifts \$1.4 million in AEIDF spending authority from thoroughbred and light horse racing line items that are no longer used to line items that support standardbred racing purses, purse supplements, and breeders' awards. This shift between line items nets to \$0.	Restricted	3,794,200	0
	GF/GP	\$0	\$0
<u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , and <u>Conference</u> concur with Executive and retain current year AEIDF appropriations for horse program lines but shift from thoroughbred and light horse lines to standardbred lines. This treatment mirrors State Budget Office legislative transfer request for FY 2022-23.			
<u>Conference</u> treatment would bring FY 2023-24 AEIDF support for standardbred racing programs to \$3.4 million, \$600,000 less than FY 2021-22 when \$4.0 million was expended on standardbred racing programs. In FY 2021-22 expenditures for standardbred programs included \$2.3 million in GF/GP revenue from a boilerplate appropriation.			
12. County Fairs – Capital Grants	Gross	\$500,000	\$2,000,000
<u>Executive</u> recommends current year funding of \$500,000 GF/GP for program of capital grants to county fairs. <u>House</u> recommends \$1.5 million in total, using \$1.0 million in AEIDF funding. <u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive and retains current year funding levels. <u>Conference</u> includes \$2.5 million GF/GP total - \$500,000 ongoing and \$2.0 million one-time.	Restricted	0	0
	GF/GP	\$500,000	\$2,000,000
13. Minority-Owned Food and Agriculture Ventures (One-Time)	Gross	\$0	\$2,900,000
<u>Senate</u> includes \$1.4 million for new program defined in boilerplate section 902. <u>Conference</u> includes \$2.9 million GF/GP.	GF/GP	\$0	\$2,900,000
14. Northern Michigan Herd Protection & Management (One-Time)	Gross	\$0	\$100
<u>Executive</u> requests \$5.0 million GF/GP (one-time) for practices that separate livestock from wildlife in order to protect livestock from Bovine Tuberculosis; targeted for counties in the Modified Accredited Zone (Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, Oscoda) as well as adjacent Presque Isle County. Project supports efforts to maintain Michigan's "split state" status with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. <u>House</u> includes a \$100 placeholder from restricted funds. <u>Senate</u> includes \$100 GF/GP placeholder. <u>Conference</u> concurs with Senate and includes \$100 GF/GP placeholder.	Restricted	0	0
	GF/GP	\$0	\$100
15. Rural Venture Capital Program (One-Time)	Gross	\$0	\$100
<u>Senate</u> includes \$100 GF/GP placeholder. <u>Conference</u> concurs with Senate.	GF/GP	\$0	\$100
16. Washtenaw Conservation District – MiFarmLink Pilot Project	Gross	\$0	\$100,000
<u>Senate</u> includes \$100,000 for project defined in boilerplate section 905. <u>Conference</u> concurs with Senate.	GF/GP	\$0	\$100,000
17. ARP – Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure	Gross	\$0	\$10,100,000
<u>Conference</u> recognizes \$10.1 million in federal American Recovery Plan (ARP) COVID-relief funding from the USDA Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) program.	Federal	0	10,100,000
	GF/GP	\$0	\$0
18. MI Climate Smart Farming (Executive Budget Only)	Gross	\$0	\$0
<u>Executive</u> requests \$10.0 million GF/GP (one-time) to assist Michigan farmers in implementing regenerative agriculture practices to reduce soil disturbance, maximize crop diversity, sequester carbon, and reduce sediment and nutrient runoff. Related boilerplate would authorize 4.0 limited-term FTE positions. <u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , <u>Conference</u> do not include.	GF/GP	\$0	\$0

Major Budget Changes from FY 2022-23 YTD Appropriations		FY 2022-23 Year-to-Date (as of 2/8/23)	FY 2023-24 Conference Change
19. County Fairs – Premiums (House Only)		Gross	\$0
<u>House</u> includes \$1.6 million from the AEIDF to restore funding for county fair premiums. Premiums represent cash prizes paid to persons winning or placing in certain designated competitions at qualified fairs and expositions. <u>Senate</u> does not include. <u>Conference</u> does not include.		Restricted	0
		GF/GP	\$0
20. Equine Veterinary Research Grants (House Only)		Gross	\$0
<u>House</u> includes \$1.0 million from the AEIDF for a program of grants to Michigan colleges of veterinary medicine for research in equine health and disease prevention and response. <u>Senate</u> does not include. <u>Conference</u> does not include.		Restricted	0
		GF/GP	\$0
21. SEEDSS (House Only)		Gross	\$0
<u>House</u> includes \$7.0 million for a new grant program, in partnership with Michigan State University, for research and pilot projects in support of sustainable agriculture. <u>Senate</u> does not include. <u>Conference</u> does not include.		GF/GP	\$0
22. Carbon Action Fund (Senate Only)		Gross	\$0
<u>Senate</u> includes \$100 GF/GP placeholder. <u>House</u> does not include. <u>Conference</u> does not include.		GF/GP	\$0
23. Small Producer Supply Chain/Market Access (Senate Only)		Gross	\$0
<u>Senate</u> includes \$4.0 million for new program. <u>House</u> does not include. <u>Conference</u> does not include.		GF/GP	\$0
24. Back Out FY 2022-23 One-Time GF/GP		Gross	\$56,000,000
<u>Executive</u> removes FY 2022-23 one-time funding items totaling \$56.0 million GF/GP: Animal Welfare and Veterinary Care, \$2.0 million; Economic Development for Food and Agriculture, \$50.0 million; Office of Rural Development grants, \$3.0 million; Buy Michigan Campaign, \$1.0 million. <u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , and <u>Conference</u> concur with <u>Executive</u> .		GF/GP	\$56,000,000
Note that \$1.0 million in FY 2022-23 one-time funding for Local Conservation Districts is retained in the FY 2022-23 Conference agreement and described in Item # 5, above.			(\$56,000,000)
			(\$56,000,000)
25. Economic Adjustments		Gross	NA
<u>Executive</u> budget reflects net decrease in estimated costs of \$232,500 Gross (\$175,100 GF/GP) for negotiated salary and wage increases (2.0% on October 1, 2023), actuarially required retirement contributions, worker's compensation, building occupancy charges, rent, and other economic adjustments. <u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , and <u>Conference</u> concur with <u>Executive</u> .		IDGS	NA
		Federal	NA
		Restricted	NA
		GF/GP	NA
			300
			(10,500)
			(47,200)
			(\$175,100)
26. Executive Budget Revision – Staffing		Gross	NA
<u>Conference</u> reflects Executive Budget Revision dated April 18, 2023 to recognize additional costs associated with compensation increases for certain specific Civil Service classifications. The estimated costs of these compensation increases by department were not available at the time of the Governor's February 8, 2023 budget presentation. In this budget, the compensation increases are entirely associated with staffing in Animal Disease Prevention and Response.		Federal	NA
		Restricted	NA
		GF/GP	NA
			2,300
			700
			\$179,600

Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2022-23

Sec. 214. Annual Legacy Costs – DELETED

Section identifies estimated department "legacy costs", including pension related costs and retiree health care costs. Executive deletes. House, Senate, and Conference concur with Executive and delete.

Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2022-23

Sec. 218. State Administrative Board Transfers – RETAINED

Provides for the legislature to intertransfer funds within budget if the State Administrative Board transfers funds from an appropriation within this budget. Executive deletes. House and Senate concur with Executive and delete. Conference retains – renumbered as **Sec. 219**.

Sec. 222. Restrictions on COVID-19 Passports – DELETED

Restricts use of COVID-19 "passports" to document vaccination status. Executive deletes. House, Senate, and Conference concur with Executive and delete.

Sec. 224. Remote Work Policy – MODIFIED

Legislative intent language: "that the department maximize the efficiency of the state workforce and, where possible, prioritize in-person work and post its in-person, remote, or hybrid work policy on its website." Executive deletes. House and Senate retain. Conference retains with minor wording changes, and renumbered as Sec. 218.

Sec. 225. Access to State and Local Services – NEW

Executive included new language that prohibits appropriations from being used to restrict or interfere with actions related to diversity, equity, and inclusion, to restrict or impede community access to government programs, or restrict an individual's ability to exercise the right to reproductive freedom; requires local governments to report on actions that attempt to restrict duties of local health officers. House includes modified language. Senate does not include. Conference includes, as Sec. 226, modified language to prohibit use of funds to restrict or impede community access to government resources, programs, and to require local governments to report on actions that attempt to restrict duties of local health officers.

Sec. 241. Incident Management Notification – DELETED

Requires the department to notify legislators when incident management team is activated. Executive deletes. House deletes. Senate retains. Conference deletes.

Sec. 242. Use of GF/GP – NOT INCLUDED

Senate includes new section that requires the department to use GF/GP only after expenditure of federal or private grant funding, if available. Conference does not include.

Sec. 301. Miscellaneous Fees, Use of Fee Revenue, Fee Reports – REVISED

Executive retains section that authorizes department to establish a fee schedule and collect fees for various work activities and services. The section also authorizes the department to receive and expend fee revenue, subject to appropriation, for the purpose of recovering expenses related to specific work activities and services. However, Executive deletes Subsection 5 that asks the department to work with vendors supplying testing of certain certified/registered pesticide applicators to ensure adequate testing capacity, access to testing sites, and reasonable costs. House retains subsection (5). Senate concurs with Executive and deletes subsection (5). Conference retains section but deletes subsection (5).

Sec. 303. Emerging Contaminates – NEW

Executive includes new section defining the emerging contaminants program established in part 1; directs the department to support efforts to identify and respond to emerging contaminants, including PFAS, to the food and agriculture sector. House concurs with Executive. Senate includes this language as both sections 303 and 901. Conference concurs with Executive, also includes work project language.

Sec. 501. Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division (PPPM) Annual Report – RETAINED

Executive deletes PPPM reporting requirement. House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 502. Pesticide Safety Program – DELETED

Executive deletes \$1.2 million earmark from PPPM line item for staffing and operational support for education and compliance assistance efforts to ensure uniform application of pesticide regulations. House retains. Senate concurs with Executive and deletes. Conference deletes.

Sec. 503. Agricultural Climate Resiliency – NEW

Conference includes new section that defines the part 1 appropriation.

Sec. 504. Soil Health and Regenerative Agriculture – NEW

Conference includes new section that defines the part 1 appropriation.

Sec. 602. Environmental Stewardship Division Annual Report – RETAINED

Executive deletes section that requires the department to report on the previous calendar year's activities of the Environmental Stewardship Division. House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 603. Agricultural Nutrient Best Management Voluntary Practices Program – RETAINED

Executive deletes reporting requirement related to prior-year work project related to water quality improvement in the western Lake Erie basin. House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2022-23

Sec. 604. Appropriation of Additional Federal Revenues – RETAINED

Executive retains, with minor technical changes, section that authorizes the department to receive and expend up to \$1.0 million in additional federal revenues beyond the amounts appropriated under part 1, Section 107 for environmental stewardship and MAEAP activities; requires the department to notify the legislature prior to expending the additional federal revenue received and authorized under this section. House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 610. Farmland/Opens Space Tax Credit Processing – RETAINED

Executive deletes section that requires the department to coordinate with the Michigan Department of Treasury to improve timely processing of tax credits under farmland and open space preservation programs. House concurs with Executive and deletes. Senate retains. Conference retains.

Sec. 651. Laboratory Division Annual Report – RETAINED

Executive deletes section that requires the department to report on the previous calendar year's activities of the Laboratory Division. House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 652. Prohibition on use of Fund to Consolidate State-Run Laboratories – NEW

Senate includes new section that prohibits the use of funds from part 1 for the purpose of consolidating state-run laboratories. Conference includes with minor wording changes.

Sec. 701. Food and Agriculture Investment (Grant) Program – REVISED

Executive revises language that defines and guides the grant program. House includes additional revised language, including direction that: "in awarding grants under the program the department shall identify and encourage applications from, beginning, socially disadvantaged, women, and veteran farmers and ranchers." Senate includes with modified language. Conference retains with modified language: "in awarding grants under the food and agriculture investment program, the department shall identify and encourage applications from members of socially disadvantaged groups, women, veterans, and beginning farmers and ranchers."

Sec. 702. Rural Development Fund – DELETED

Executive deletes section that requires the department to work with the Rural Development Fund board to establish a process and criteria for funding projects as well as establishing metrics and measurable outcomes for the program, in accordance with provisions of the Rural Development Fund Act, 2012 PA 411. House, Senate, and Conference concur with Executive and delete.

Sec. 702a. Office of Rural Development – RETAINED

Executive deletes section that directs the Office of Rural Development to encourage and enable appropriate community advancements and improvements, including, but not limited to, housing, infrastructure, education, workforce development, and other needs uniquely present in rural areas of this state that will assist in expansion of rural agriculture development. House and Senate retains. Conference retains – renumbered as Sec. 702.

Sec. 703. Double Up Food Bucks Program – REVISED

Executive retains current section, with some language modifications, including striking reference to limit on daily benefit. House, Senate, and Conference concur with Executive.

Sec. 706. Agriculture Development Division Annual Report – REVISED

Executive deletes current annual report requirement on activities of the Agriculture Development Division. Current report provides specific information on agriculture development grant awards and specific information on the activities of the Michigan Craft Beverage Council. House retains with modifications. Senate retains. Conference retains with additional reporting requirement regarding grants to members of socially disadvantaged groups, women, veterans, and beginning farmers and ranchers.

Sec. 801. Agriculture Equine Industry Development Fund (AEIDF) – RETAINED

Executive retains section that requires that all appropriations from the AEIDF be spent on equine-related purposes; prohibits use for non-equine purposes without prior legislative approval. House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 802. Agriculture Equine Industry Development Fund Reductions – REVISED

Executive modifies section that established AEIDF revenue spending priorities. House deletes. Senate and Conference concur with Executive and includes section, modified to eliminate \$495,000 limitation on purses and supplements – fairs licensed tracks.

Sec. 805. County Fair Capital Grant Program – REVISED

Executive modifies section that provides guidance for county fair capital grant program, including matching requirements. Makes minor language changes, House retains current language. Senate and Conference concur with Executive and include modified language.

Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2022-23

Sec. 902. Minority Owned Food and Agriculture Ventures – NEW

Senate includes language to define the proposed minority-owned food and agriculture ventures grant program established in part 1. Conference includes.

Sec. 903. Agricultural Climate Resiliency – NEW

Conference includes work project designation language related to the one-time appropriation.

Sec. 904. Soil Health/Regenerative Agriculture – NEW

Conference includes work project designation language related to the one-time appropriation.

Sec. 905. Washtenaw County Local Conservation District – NEW

Senate includes language earmarking one-time appropriation for the Washtenaw Conservation District for a 2-year MiFarmLink pilot project to connect new farmers with opportunities to gain access to land in order to start farming. Conference includes.

FY 2022-23 Supplemental Appropriation Items

Article 16, House Bill 4437 (H-1) CR-1

1. CRRSAA – Farm Stress Program

Includes \$60,000 of federal CRRSAA funds to provide a stress assistance program for individuals in farming and other agriculture related occupations.

	Gross	\$60,000
Federal		60,000
GF/GP		\$0

2. CRRSAA – Seafood Processors Pandemic Response

Includes \$200,000 of federal CRRSAA funds to provide financial relief to seafood processors.

	Gross	\$200,000
Federal		200,000
GF/GP		\$0

3. Emerging Contaminants Research and Response

Includes \$8.0 million GF/GP to identify, respond to, and mitigate emerging contaminants, including PFAS, that affect agriculture and related food industries.

	Gross	\$8,000,000
GF/GP		\$8,000,000

4. Double Up Food Bucks

Includes \$2.0 million GF/GP for the Double Up Food Bucks program that helps Bridge Card recipients access fresh fruits and vegetables. Funding will be used to match federal grant funds.

	Gross	\$2,000,000
GF/GP		\$2,000,000

FY 2022-23 Supplemental Boilerplate Items

Article 16, House Bill 4437 (H-1) CR-1

Sec. 301. Farm Stress Program

Designates unexpended funds for the CRRSAA Farm Stress Program as a work project appropriation; funds would be used to provide stress assistance to individuals in farming and other agriculture related occupations.

Sec. 302. Seafood Processors Pandemic Response Program

Designates unexpended funds for the CRRSAA Seafood Processors Pandemic Response Program as a work project appropriation; funds would be used to provide financial relief to seafood processors.

Sec. 303. Emerging Contaminants Response

Designates unexpended funds for Emerging Contaminants Research and Response as a work project appropriation; funds would be used to provide resources to address PFAS in the agricultural environment.

Sec. 304. Double Up Food Bucks – Requirements

Requires the department to work with the Fair Food Network to ensure that at least 80% of funds are used directly for payments to participating providers; requires the department to work with DHHS to notify recipients of benefits; requires the department to work with the Fair Food Network to expand access to the program.

Sec. 305. Double Up Food Bucks – Spending Plan and Work Project

Requires the department to work with the Fair Food Network to develop and implement a spending plan; designates unexpended funds for Double Up Food Bucks as a work project appropriation; funds would be used to leverage federal funds.