

Department of Planning and Budget 2021 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB2068

House of Origin	☒	Introduced	☐	Substitute	☐	Engrossed
Second House	☐	In Committee	☐	Substitute	☐	Enrolled

2. Patron: Rasoul

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Local Food and Farming Infrastructure Grant Program.

5. Summary: Establishes the Local Food and Farming Infrastructure Grant Program and authorizes the Governor to award grants to political subdivisions from the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund as part of the Program. Such grants, in amounts up to \$25,000, shall be awarded on a competitive basis to support infrastructure development projects that support local food production and sustainable farming. The bill directs the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry to develop guidelines for the Program that favor projects that establish or maintain farmers markets; businesses or organizations that manage the aggregation, distribution, and marketing of food products primarily from local and regional producers; and primarily locally owned processing facilities.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No. See item 8.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill adds an additional grant component to the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund Program. The component, titled the Local Food and Farming Infrastructure Grant Program, will provide grants of up to \$25,000 on a competitive basis to support infrastructure development projects that support local food production and sustainable farming. Funding to support these grants will come from the appropriation currently provided for the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund (AFID). Item of HB1800/SB1100 includes \$1.0 million from the general fund in each year for AFID grants, as well as \$233,692 in each year for administrative costs of the program. It is anticipated that the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services can administer this new grant component with these resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: Yes, line 84, after “§ 3.2-310” insert “and § 3.2-311.”

11. Other Comments: None.