



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE
Joint Fiscal Office

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Fiscal Note

April 3, 2024

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H.877 – An act relating to miscellaneous agricultural subjects

As passed by the House of Representatives

Bill Summary

This bill would make various changes to provisions relating to agriculture, including:

- Expanding eligibility requirements for the Farm Agronomic Practices Program
- Adopting additional national weights and measures standards
- Creating a fee for electronic and alternative testing services for pesticide certification or licensing examinations
- Changing regulation of fertilizer, limes, plant and soil amendments, and plant biostimulants

Fiscal Impact

The Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) estimates the bill would generate negligible positive revenue for the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM) Pesticide Monitoring Special Fund. The bill would allow the Agency of Agriculture to charge a fee of up to \$75 for electronic or alternative pesticide licensing testing. The fee would be designed to cover any convenience fee a contractor charges the Agency to use the service, however the Agency has not yet released an RFP for this service, so the corresponding fee amount is not currently unknown. The bill would also require AAFM to report by December 15, 2024 on a proposed fee for electronic administration of pesticide certification examinations.

Changes to the Farm Agronomic Practices Program do not have a fiscal impact, as this language would only widen eligibility.