

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DATCP 2/16/2018

LRB Number	17-4648/1	Introduction Number	SB-562	Estimate Type	Original
Description requiring the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to create an office of urban agriculture					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) to establish and operate an office of urban agriculture. Under this bill, the office must be located in an urban environment and work to promote urban agriculture by supporting and integrating current urban farmers, as well as identifying individuals interested in urban agriculture and business. Additionally, the newly created office of urban agriculture will provide technical assistance, as well as employment, mentorship, and outreach opportunities to urban farmers and related urban agricultural small businesses. The bill mandates that the office of urban agriculture foster educational opportunities through the University of Wisconsin System, the technical college system, and any associated schools of agriculture. Lastly, the bill directs DATCP to create an internet site and work with local, state, regional, and federal agencies and organizations to promote urban agriculture.

DATCP expects approximately 1,248 hours of additional staff time annually is needed to create and staff an office of urban agriculture. Current allocations of staff and resources within DATCP's Division of Agricultural Development are insufficient to absorb the proposed office.

Therefore, DATCP estimates needing a 0.60 FTE Agricultural Program Specialist Senior position to create and staff the office. The estimated annual salary and fringe costs for the position would be \$51,500. Additional program costs include trainings and conferences as well as travel costs throughout the state in addition to supplies and services costs for the position. Further, additional ongoing costs of necessary administrative support functions will also be incurred.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications