



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE Joint Fiscal Office

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Fiscal Note

April 1, 2025

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H.167 – An act relating to establishing the Vermonters Feeding Vermonters Grant at the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

As passed by the House of Representatives^{1,i}

Bill Summary

This bill establishes the Vermonters Feeding Vermonters Grant Program within the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM).

Fiscal Impact

As recommended by the House Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry, the bill would have appropriated \$2,000,000 from the General Fund to AAFM in fiscal year 2026 to implement the Vermonters Feeding Vermonters Grant Program. The House, upon recommendation of the House Committee on Appropriations, removed this appropriation to instead reflect any appropriations in the fiscal year 2026 appropriations bill.

Background and Details

The following sections have a fiscal impact.

Section 2: Vermonters Feeding Vermonters Grant Program

Section 2 creates the Vermonters Feeding Vermonters Grant Program within AAFM. Under this program, AAFM would provide grants to Vermont Foodbank to purchase and distribute food directly from Vermont farms and offer subgrants to partner organizations to purchase products from local farms.

Section 2 would require Vermont Foodbank, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets, to report annually to the House Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry and the Senate Committee on Agriculture on the Program's implementation and administration.

Section 3: Appropriation

As recommended by the House Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry, Section 3 would have appropriated \$2,000,000 from the General Fund to AAFM in fiscal year 2026 to implement the Program. Upon recommendation of the Committee on Appropriations, the House removed the appropriation and

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inserted language stating that implementation is contingent upon AAFM receiving an appropriation in fiscal year 2026 from the General Fund for that purpose.

ⁱ *The bill as originally recommended by the House Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry can be found [here](#). The full fiscal note history is available on the fiscal tab of the bill page on the General Assembly website and can be accessed through a bill number search on the JFO page.*