



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2023 Biennium

Bill #	HB0294	Title:	Revise fees for agricultural seed licenses
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Primary Sponsor:	Fitzgerald, Ross H	Status:	As Introduced
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- Significant Local Gov Impact
 Needs to be included in HB 2
 Technical Concerns
 Included in the Executive Budget
 Significant Long-Term Impacts
 Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2022</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2023</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2024</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2025</u> <u>Difference</u>
Expenditures:				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue:				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact-General Fund Balance:	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Description of fiscal impact: HB 294 increases the range of Montana Seed Program license fees for dealers, growers, labelers, and conditioning plants. The seed program regulates in accordance with the Montana Agricultural Seed and Patented Plant Material Act and administrative rules. Actual fees are set and administered by administrative rules. The fiscal impact will be determined after discussion with industry stakeholders and the administrative rules have been amended, therefore it is difficult to determine the fiscal impact.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions:

- Under current law, seed license fee ranges from \$55 to maximum \$75 per license for Montana licensees. The seed license fee for non-resident licensees ranges from \$110 to a maximum of \$150 per license.
- HB 294 would increase the license fee range from \$50 per year to a maximum of \$200 per license. Nonresident seed licensee license fee range increase to \$50 per year to a maximum of \$250 per year.
- The Department Agriculture administers Seed Program licenses in accordance with ARM 4.12.3017 rules that are established by 80-5-130, MCA. The amount of the fees is established by rules.
- Current Fees: 4.12.3017 SEED LICENSING FEES
 - a Montana grower who sells and/or labels seed: \$75 a year license fee;
 - a Montana seed dealer: \$75 a year license fee;

- (c) a Montana seed conditioner: \$75 a year license fee;
 - (d) a Montana seed labeler: \$75 a year license fee;
 - (e) a nonresident seed labeler: \$75 a year license fee; and
 - (f) a nonresident dealer selling seed into Montana: \$130 a year license fee.
5. If the fee ranges are implemented; future administrative rules related to specific license fees will need to accompany this legislation. The cost of the ruling is anticipated to minimal and can be absorbed by the department.

NOT SIGNED BY SPONSOR

Sponsor's Initials

2/10/21
Date

KA
Budget Director's Initials

2/7/21
Date