## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## **HOUSE BILL**

No. 2497 Session of 2018

INTRODUCED BY FEE, BERNSTINE, CAUSER, CORBIN, CUTLER, DRISCOLL, GREINER, HICKERNELL, JAMES, KAVULICH, MENTZER, MILLARD, WATSON AND ZIMMERMAN, JUNE 18, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS, JUNE 18, 2018

## AN ACT

Amending the act of June 18, 1982 (P.L.549, No.159), entitled 1 "An act providing for the administration of certain 2 Commonwealth farmland within the Department of Agriculture," 3 further providing for agricultural land conservation assistance grant program. 5 6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 7 hereby enacts as follows: 8 Section 1. Section 7.3 of the act of June 18, 1982 (P.L.549, No.159) entitled "An act providing for the administration of 10 certain Commonwealth farmland within the Department of 11 Agriculture," is amended by adding a subsection to read: 12 Section 7.3. Agricultural land conservation assistance grant 13 program. \* \* \* 14 15 (f) The department may use up to a total of \$165,000 each 16 fiscal year in the Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Fund under section 7.1(a) to issue grants not to exceed \$3,000 17

each for succession planning to ensure that agricultural

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- 1 operations continue on land subject to agricultural conservation
- 2 <u>easements</u>. The department, in consultation with the State
- 3 Agricultural Land Preservation Board, shall establish
- 4 <u>eligibility criteria for awarding grants under this subsection.</u>
- 5 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.