



March 5, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (004439): Requires that if the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) contracts with a farmer to farm lands owned or under the control of this state, relative to cooperative agreements with farmers, landowners, and lessees, not less than 60 days prior the contract's expiration, the agency must offer the farmer the opportunity to renegotiate the contract with the agency prior to accepting requests for proposals for the contract. Establishes that if the farmer and the TWRA renew any such contract, then farmer may renew such contract for an additional three five-year terms; provided, if the farmer has been under contract with the TWRA for twenty or more consecutive years, the farmer is not entitled to renegotiate the contract, but is authorized to bid on such contract.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- This legislation will not result in a change in the number of cooperative agreements the TWRA enters into, but rather, may result in a change in entities that the state would otherwise contract with.
- Authorizing farmers to renegotiate not less than 60 days prior to a contract's expiration may result in an increase in state expenditures, depending on the final terms of the contract. However, it is assumed that if any such increase would be significant, TWRA would proceed with accepting other requests for proposals for the contract and ultimately contract with entities under most favorable terms for the state. Therefore, any impact on state expenditures is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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