STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS25347

This is a supplemental appropriation bill to the Department of Agriculture for two purposes.

First, it provides \$169,900 from the General Fund and \$350,000 from the federal grant fund for a total of \$519,900 for the methyl bromide project. Activities are in response to the identification of fields and commodities that exhibit elevated levels of inorganic bromide, a residue of methyl bromide. Methyl bromide was used as a fumigant to treat fields infested with pale cyst nematode (PCN), a pest of potatoes identified in 26 fields in Bonneville and Bingham counties. PCN is a quarantined pest, the presence of which has impacted export market access for fresh potatoes from Idaho. Moneys will be used for commodity and water sampling, disposal of hay, grower contracts for baling hay, and a burn study with the Idaho National Laboratory.

Second, it provides \$500,000 from the General Fund for the development of a software program that will facilitate the electronic tracking of animal identification numbers and other data pertaining to livestock movements into and out-of the state. This software will also be able to pass information electronically to the Brand Board for its use, as well as capture relevant data from the Brand Board software. A supplemental is needed because the Division of Purchasing will not allow the distribution of the Request for Proposal (RFP) until a funding source has been approved. Because of the timing and process, JFAC provided carryover authority into FY 2018.

FISCAL NOTE

This is a fiscal year 2017 supplemental appropriation to the Department of Agriculture. It provides \$669,900 from the General Fund and \$350,000 from federal funds for a total of \$1,019,900, one-time. Of the total, \$519,900 is directed to the methyl bromide project and \$500,000 is to purchase livestock tracking software.

Contact:

Ray Houston Budget and Policy Analysis (208) 334-4741

DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).