
VIRGINIA STATE BUDGET

2024 Special Session I

Budget Bill - HB6002 (Chapter 1)

Bill Order » Office of Agriculture and Forestry » Item 98

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Item 98	First Year - FY2023	Second Year - FY2024
Agricultural Industry Marketing, Development, Promotion, and Improvement (53200)	\$24,854,689	\$24,235,814 \$25,387,713
Grading and Certification of Virginia Products (53201)	\$7,846,952	\$7,846,952
Milk Marketing Regulation (53204)	\$888,753	\$888,753
Marketing Research (53205)	\$313,200	\$313,200
Market Virginia Agricultural and Forestry Products Nationally and Internationally (53206)	\$5,343,927	\$5,343,927
Agricultural Commodity Boards (53208)	\$8,540,393	\$7,921,518 \$9,073,417
Agribusiness Development Services and Farmland Preservation (53209)	\$1,921,464	\$1,921,464
Fund Sources:		
General	\$11,111,463	\$10,492,588 \$11,644,487
Special	\$158,125	\$158,125
Trust and Agency	\$7,285,070	\$7,285,070
Dedicated Special Revenue	\$5,579,133	\$5,579,133
Federal Trust	\$720,898	\$720,898

Authority: Title 3.2, Chapters 1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30, 32, 34, 35; Title 28.2, Chapter 2; and Title 61.1, Chapter 4, Code of Virginia.

A. Agricultural Commodity Boards shall be paid from the special fund taxes levied in the following estimated amounts:

1. To the Tobacco Board, \$143,000 the first year and \$143,000 the second year.
2. To the Corn Board, \$390,000 the first year and \$390,000 the second year.
3. To the Egg Board, \$210,000 the first year and \$210,000 the second year.
4. To the Soybean Board, \$1,164,000 the first year and \$1,164,000 the second year.
5. To the Peanut Board, \$320,000 the first year and \$320,000 the second year.
6. To the Cattle Industry Board, \$800,000 the first year and \$800,000 the second year.

7. To the Virginia Small Grains Board, \$400,000 the first year and \$400,000 the second year.

8. To the Virginia Horse Industry Board, \$320,000 the first year and \$320,000 the second year.

9. To the Virginia Sheep Industry Board, \$35,000 the first year and \$35,000 the second year.

10. To the Virginia Potato Board, \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the second year.

11. To the Virginia Cotton Board, \$180,000 the first year and \$180,000 the second year.

12. To the State Apple Board, \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the second year.

B. Each commodity board is authorized to expend funds in accordance with its authority as stated in the Code of Virginia. Such expenditures will be limited to available revenue levels.

C. Each commodity board specified in this Item shall provide an annual notification to its excise tax paying producers which summarizes the purpose of the board and the excise tax, current tax rate, amount of excise taxes collected in the previous tax year, the previous fiscal year expenditures and the board's past year activities. The manner of notification shall be determined by each board.

D. Out of the amounts in this Item shall be paid from certain special fund license taxes, license fees, and permit fees levied or imposed under Title 28.2, Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, Code of Virginia, to the Virginia Marine Products Board, \$402,543 and two positions the first year and \$402,543 and two positions the second year.

E.1. Out of the amounts in this Item, \$2,514,048 the first year and \$2,514,048 the second year from the general fund shall be deposited to the Virginia Wine Promotion Fund as established in § 3.2-3005, Code of Virginia.

2. Out of the amounts provided in this item, \$125,000 the first year from the general fund is provided to support the Wine Board of Virginia for the purpose of developing vinifera-style wine grapes adapted to the Mid-Atlantic region.

F. Out of the amounts in this Item, \$952,375 the first year ~~the general fund and an amount the second year to be provided consistent with the provisions of Chapters 84 and 85 of the Acts of Assembly of 2022~~ and \$1,151,899 the second year from the general fund shall be deposited to the Virginia Spirits Promotion Fund established pursuant to § 3.2-3012, Code of Virginia.

G. Out of the amounts in this Item, \$875,000 the first year and \$875,000 the second year from the general fund shall be deposited to the Virginia Farmland Preservation Fund established in § 3.2-201, Code of Virginia. This appropriation shall be deemed sufficient to meet the provisions of § 2.2-1509.4, Code of Virginia.

H. Out of the amounts in this Item, \$30,000 the first year and \$30,000 the second year from the general fund is provided to support a pilot partnership between the Department and Virginia State University's (VSU) Small Farm Management Agents to increase diversity of program participants, with an emphasis on small, socially disadvantaged, BIPOC, new and beginning, veteran and women farmers and landowners.

I. Out of the amounts in this Item, the Commissioner is authorized to expend from the general fund amounts not to exceed \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the second year for entertainment expenses commonly borne by businesses. Further, such expenses shall be recorded separately by the agency.

J. Out of the amounts in this Item, the Commissioner is authorized to expend \$1,120,226 the first year and \$1,120,226 the second year from the general fund for the promotion of Virginia's agricultural products overseas.

Such efforts shall be conducted in concert with the international offices opened by the Virginia Economic Development Partnership.

K. Out of the amounts in this Item, \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year from the general fund is provided for the Department's efforts to support the International Trade Plan.

L. Out of the amounts in this Item, \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the second year from the general fund shall be provided to support 4-H and Future Farmers of America youth participation educational costs at the State Fair of Virginia. These funds shall not be used for administrative costs by the State Fair.

M. Out of the amounts for this Item, \$458,500 the second year from the general fund and two positions are provided to establish the Virginia Beer Distribution Company, consistent with the provisions of § [3.2-102](#), Code of Virginia.