

FISCAL NOTE

June 27, 2023

Bill No:	SB 690	Printer's No:	714	Sponsor:	Yaw
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COST / (SAVINGS)

Fund (s)	2022-23	2023-24
General Fund	See Fiscal Impact	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY: SB 690 amends the Dam Safety and Encroachments Act to provide for county conservation district stream reconstruction emergency permit authorizations.

ANALYSIS: This bill states that a county conservation district may apply for an amendment to their agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the Water Obstruction and Encroachment Program for the purpose of stream reconstruction- activities in response to or in anticipation of significant flood events.

This amendment allows the county conservation district to request (and DEP shall issue) an emergency permit for stream reconstruction.

DEP shall develop a stream reconstruction emergency permit and publish issuances of such permits in the Pennsylvania Bulletin. Within 60 days of the effective date, DEP shall provide notice to the conservation districts of the availability of these permits.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT: SB 690 would require five additional FTEs at a cost of \$670,834.69 annually. This is due to the fact that DEP would have to develop a training program for counties not familiar with these activities and for follow-up evaluations to assess the effectiveness of county programs. There would also be a burden to develop new regulations. Counties would also incur costs annually due to the obligation to perform stream maintenance activities.