



# SENATE BILL 812: Agricultural Sciences Center Funds.

2019-2020 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	June 3, 2020
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sens. Brown, Harrington, B. Jackson	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Luke Gillenwater
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 812 provides \$10.1 million in funding for the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' new Agricultural Sciences Center using existing cash balances from four different sources.*

**BACKGROUND:** The Agricultural Sciences Center will contain offices and labs that perform tests for four of the department's divisions: Food and Drug Protection, Standards, Structural Pest Control and Pesticides, and Veterinary. The building, scheduled to open in December of 2020 at a west Raleigh site, replaces four labs whose average age is more than 40 years.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Senate Bill 812 provides \$115,000 in recurring funds for an Executive Director position for the Center, funded by a reallocation of funds from the Pay Plan Reserve. The bill also provides \$10 million in nonrecurring funds for equipment, moving costs, and other nonrecurring expenses drawn from the unencumbered cash balances of the following funds:

- \$3.8 million from the Shallow Draft Navigation Channel Dredging and Aquatic Weed Fund.
- \$1.2 million from the Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund.
- \$5 million from the Expanded Gas Products Service to Agriculture Fund.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The bill becomes effective July 1, 2020

*Jeff Cherry, staff attorney, substantially contributed to this summary.*

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