



Parliamentary Budget Office - Election Policy Costing

NSW Parliament • Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

Referred By: Coalition
Date Referred: 14/02/2019

Proposal No: Y025
Date Published: 18/03/2019

Proposal Title: Standing up for Farmers

Cluster: Industry

General Government Sector Impacts

	2018-19 \$'000	2019-20 \$'000	2020-21 \$'000	2021-22 \$'000	4 year Total \$'000
Expenses (ex. depreciation)	-	500	500	500	1,500
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-
Less: Offsets	-	500	500	500	1,500
Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Net Operating Balance:	-	-	-	-	-

Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Offsets	-	-	-	-	-
Net Capital Expenditure:	-	-	-	-	-

Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	-	-	-	-
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Total State Sector Impacts

Net Lending/(Borrowing):	-	-	-	-	-
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Notes and costing assumptions

This policy proposes to establish a NSW Agricultural Commissioner from July 2019. The Commissioner will work with the Office of the Small Business Commissioner to advance the Department of Primary Industry's 'Right to Farm' policy for farmers, small timber operators and agricultural processors. The Right to Farm policy is about farmers undertaking lawful agricultural practices without conflicts or interference from other land users. The Commissioner will also work with the NSW Farmers Association and local councils with regards to legislative and regulatory issues.

The policy specifies that the costs are to be capped at \$0.5 million per year from 1 July 2019, totalling \$2 million over four years. The policy also specifies that these amounts are to be absorbed by the Department of Industry.

The PBO estimates the net impact over the forward estimates as nil. The PBO considers that it is feasible for the Department of Industry to absorb the costs for the NSW Agricultural Commissioner, consistent with the policy. In particular, the PBO notes that the Department's budgeted operating expenditure for 2018-19 (excluding cluster grants) is \$1.9 billion. This indicates there is scope for the Department to review and reprioritise expenditure to fund the NSW Agricultural Commissioner under this policy.