Department of Agriculture

Pesticide Safety

Analyst: Paul Siebert

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for \$30,000 for greenhouse and nursery employee training on pesticide safety.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Analysis: The Department of Agriculture is requesting permission to submit a \$30,000 federal grant application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop a worker protection and safety training video, in English and Spanish, for training greenhouse and nursery employees on safely working with and around pesticides. Grant funding would come from EPA monies set aside for special projects which are awarded competitively.

Grant applications were due June 8, 2015. The Department reports it became aware of the grant opportunity on June 2, 2015. There is no match requirement for this grant. No new positions will be created. The Department reports that if successful, grant expenditures could be accommodated in the agency's proposed budget for 2015-17.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.