

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2018 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Agriculture

CS/SB 872 — Young Farmers and Ranchers

by Appropriations Committee; and Senator Grimsley (CS/HB 645 by Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee; Rep. Raburn and others)

The bill establishes the Florida Young Farmer and Rancher Advisory Council within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department). The Commissioner of Agriculture (commissioner) will appoint 12 members to the council. The council may submit findings and recommendations for mitigating challenges facing young farmers and ranchers to the commissioner.

The bill also directs the department to establish the Florida Young Farmer and Rancher Resource Clearinghouse on its website to assist young and beginning farmers in identifying available grants, loans, scholarships, and resources for financial and business planning. The clearinghouse must also include resources available to beginning agricultural producers who are veterans.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2018.

Vote: Senate 36-0; House 114-0