

1.1 Senator ..... moves to amend S.F. No. 4942 as follows:

1.2 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.3 **"ARTICLE 1**  
1.4 **AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS**

1.5 Section 1. Laws 2023, chapter 43, article 1, section 2, is amended to read:

1.6 **Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

1.7			<b><u>92,025,000</u></b>		<b><u>72,223,000</u></b>
1.8	Subdivision 1. <b>Total Appropriation</b>		<b>\$ <u>88,325,000</u></b>		<b>\$ <u>80,243,000</u></b>

1.9	Appropriations by Fund			
1.10		2024	2025	
1.11		<del>91,626,000</del>	<del>71,824,000</del>	
1.12	General	<u>87,926,000</u>	<u>79,844,000</u>	
1.13	Remediation	399,000	399,000	

1.14 The amounts that may be spent for each  
1.15 purpose are specified in the following  
1.16 subdivisions.

1.17 **Subd. 2. Protection Services**

1.18	Appropriations by Fund			
1.19		2024	2025	
1.20		<del>32,034,000</del>	<del>18,743,000</del>	
1.21	General	<u>32,084,000</u>	<u>22,113,000</u>	
1.22	Remediation	399,000	399,000	

1.23 (a) \$399,000 the first year and \$399,000 the  
1.24 second year are from the remediation fund for  
1.25 administrative funding for the voluntary  
1.26 cleanup program.

1.27 (b) \$625,000 the first year and ~~\$625,000~~  
1.28 \$1,120,000 the second year are for the soil  
1.29 health financial assistance program under  
1.30 Minnesota Statutes, section 17.134. The  
1.31 commissioner may award no more than  
1.32 \$50,000 of the appropriation each year to a  
1.33 single recipient. Of the second year amount,

2.1 \$495,000 is for projects located in Dodge,  
2.2 Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Mower,  
2.3 Olmsted, Wabasha, or Winona County. The  
2.4 commissioner may use up to 6.5 percent of  
2.5 this appropriation for costs incurred to  
2.6 administer the program. Any unencumbered  
2.7 balance does not cancel at the end of the first  
2.8 year and is available in the second year.  
2.9 Appropriations encumbered under contract on  
2.10 or before June 30, 2025, for soil health  
2.11 financial assistance grants are available until  
2.12 June 30, 2027. The base for this appropriation  
2.13 is \$639,000 in fiscal year 2026 and each year  
2.14 thereafter.

2.15 (c) \$800,000 the first year is and \$75,000 the  
2.16 second year are for transfer to the pollinator  
2.17 research account established under Minnesota  
2.18 Statutes, section 18B.051. The base for this  
2.19 transfer is \$100,000 in fiscal year 2026 and  
2.20 each year thereafter.

2.21 (d) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the  
2.22 second year are for transfer to the noxious  
2.23 weed and invasive plant species assistance  
2.24 account established under Minnesota Statutes,  
2.25 section 18.89, to award grants under  
2.26 Minnesota Statutes, section 18.90, to counties,  
2.27 municipalities, and other weed management  
2.28 entities, including Minnesota Tribal  
2.29 governments as defined in Minnesota Statutes,  
2.30 section 10.65. This is a onetime appropriation.

2.31 (e) \$175,000 the first year and \$175,000 the  
2.32 second year are for compensation for  
2.33 destroyed or crippled livestock under  
2.34 Minnesota Statutes, section 3.737. The first  
2.35 year appropriation may be spent to compensate

3.1 for livestock that were destroyed or crippled  
3.2 during fiscal year 2023. If the amount in the  
3.3 first year is insufficient, the amount in the  
3.4 second year is available in the first year. The  
3.5 commissioner may use up to \$5,000 each year  
3.6 to reimburse expenses incurred by university  
3.7 extension educators to provide fair market  
3.8 values of destroyed or crippled livestock. If  
3.9 the commissioner receives federal dollars to  
3.10 pay claims for destroyed or crippled livestock,  
3.11 an equivalent amount of this appropriation  
3.12 may be used to reimburse nonlethal prevention  
3.13 methods performed by federal wildlife services  
3.14 staff.

3.15 (f) \$155,000 the first year and \$155,000 the  
3.16 second year are for compensation for crop  
3.17 damage under Minnesota Statutes, section  
3.18 3.7371. If the amount in the first year is  
3.19 insufficient, the amount in the second year is  
3.20 available in the first year. The commissioner  
3.21 may use up to \$10,000 of the appropriation  
3.22 each year to reimburse expenses incurred by  
3.23 the commissioner or the commissioner's  
3.24 approved agent to investigate and resolve  
3.25 claims, as well as for costs associated with  
3.26 training for approved agents. The  
3.27 commissioner may use up to \$40,000 of the  
3.28 appropriation each year to make grants to  
3.29 producers for measures to protect stored crops  
3.30 from elk damage. If the commissioner  
3.31 determines that claims made under Minnesota  
3.32 Statutes, section 3.737 or 3.7371, are  
3.33 unusually high, amounts appropriated for  
3.34 either program may be transferred to the  
3.35 appropriation for the other program.

4.1 (g) \$825,000 the first year and \$825,000 the  
4.2 second year are to replace capital equipment  
4.3 in the Department of Agriculture's analytical  
4.4 laboratory.

4.5 (h) \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the  
4.6 second year are to support a meat processing  
4.7 liaison position to assist new or existing meat  
4.8 and poultry processing operations in getting  
4.9 started, expanding, growing, or transitioning  
4.10 into new business models.

4.11 (i) \$2,200,000 the first year and \$1,650,000  
4.12 the second year are additional funding to  
4.13 maintain the current level of service delivery  
4.14 for programs under this subdivision. The base  
4.15 for this appropriation is \$1,925,000 for fiscal  
4.16 year 2026 and each year thereafter.

4.17 (j) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the  
4.18 second year are for grants to organizations in  
4.19 Minnesota to develop enterprises, supply  
4.20 chains, and markets for continuous-living  
4.21 cover crops and cropping systems in the early  
4.22 stages of commercial development. For the  
4.23 purposes of this paragraph, "continuous-living  
4.24 cover crops and cropping systems" refers to  
4.25 agroforestry, perennial biomass, perennial  
4.26 forage, perennial grains, and winter-annual  
4.27 cereal grains and oilseeds that have market  
4.28 value as harvested or grazed commodities. By  
4.29 February 1 each year, the commissioner must  
4.30 submit a report to the chairs and ranking  
4.31 minority members of the legislative  
4.32 committees with jurisdiction over agriculture  
4.33 finance and policy detailing uses of the funds  
4.34 in this paragraph, including administrative  
4.35 costs, and the achievements these funds

5.1 contributed to. The commissioner may use up  
5.2 to 6.5 percent of this appropriation for  
5.3 administrative costs. This is a onetime  
5.4 appropriation.

5.5 (k) \$45,000 the first year and \$45,000 the  
5.6 second year are appropriated for  
5.7 wolf-livestock conflict-prevention grants. The  
5.8 commissioner may use some of this  
5.9 appropriation to support nonlethal prevention  
5.10 work performed by federal wildlife services.  
5.11 This is a onetime appropriation.

5.12 (l) \$10,000,000 the first year is for transfer to  
5.13 the grain indemnity account established in  
5.14 Minnesota Statutes, section 223.24. This is a  
5.15 onetime transfer.

5.16 (m) \$125,000 the first year and \$125,000 the  
5.17 second year are for the PFAS in pesticides  
5.18 review. This is a onetime appropriation.

5.19 (n) \$1,941,000 the first year is for transfer to  
5.20 the food handler license account. This is a  
5.21 onetime transfer.

5.22 (o) \$2,800,000 the second year is for nitrate  
5.23 home water treatment, including reverse  
5.24 osmosis, for private drinking-water wells with  
5.25 nitrate in excess of the maximum contaminant  
5.26 level of ten milligrams per liter and located in  
5.27 Dodge, Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Mower,  
5.28 Olmsted, Wabasha, or Winona County. The  
5.29 commissioner must prioritize households at  
5.30 or below 300 percent of the federal poverty  
5.31 guideline and households with infants or  
5.32 pregnant individuals. The commissioner may  
5.33 also use this appropriation for education,  
5.34 outreach, and technical assistance to

6.1 homeowners. The commissioner of agriculture  
 6.2 may transfer money to the commissioner of  
 6.3 health to establish and administer a mitigation  
 6.4 program for contaminated wells located in  
 6.5 Dodge, Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Mower,  
 6.6 Olmsted, Wabasha, or Winona County.  
 6.7 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
 6.8 16B.98, subdivision 14, the commissioner may  
 6.9 use up to 6.5 percent of this appropriation for  
 6.10 administrative costs. This is a onetime  
 6.11 appropriation and is available until June 30,  
 6.12 2027.

6.13 (p) \$50,000 the first year is to convene a  
 6.14 working group of interested parties, including  
 6.15 representatives from the Department of  
 6.16 Natural Resources, to investigate and  
 6.17 recommend options for addressing crop and  
 6.18 fence destruction due to Cervidae. By  
 6.19 February 1, 2025, the commissioner must  
 6.20 submit a report on the findings and  
 6.21 recommendations of the working group to the  
 6.22 chairs and ranking minority members of the  
 6.23 legislative committees with jurisdiction over  
 6.24 agriculture policy and finance.

6.25 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
 6.26 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not  
 6.27 cancel at the end of the first year and is  
 6.28 available in the second year. This is a onetime  
 6.29 appropriation.

6.30 **Subd. 3. Agricultural Marketing and**  
 6.31 **Development**

5,165,000

4,985,000

6.32 (a) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the  
 6.33 second year are to expand international trade  
 6.34 opportunities and markets for Minnesota  
 6.35 agricultural products.

7.1 (b) \$186,000 the first year and \$186,000 the  
7.2 second year are for transfer to the Minnesota  
7.3 grown account and may be used as grants for  
7.4 Minnesota grown promotion under Minnesota  
7.5 Statutes, section 17.102. Notwithstanding  
7.6 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, the  
7.7 appropriations encumbered under contract on  
7.8 or before June 30, 2025, for Minnesota grown  
7.9 grants in this paragraph are available until June  
7.10 30, 2027.

7.11 (c) \$634,000 the first year and \$634,000 the  
7.12 second year are for the continuation of the  
7.13 dairy development and profitability  
7.14 enhancement programs, including dairy  
7.15 profitability teams and dairy business planning  
7.16 grants under Minnesota Statutes, section  
7.17 32D.30.

7.18 (d) The commissioner may use funds  
7.19 appropriated in this subdivision for annual  
7.20 cost-share payments to resident farmers or  
7.21 entities that sell, process, or package  
7.22 agricultural products in this state for the costs  
7.23 of organic certification. The commissioner  
7.24 may allocate these funds for assistance to  
7.25 persons transitioning from conventional to  
7.26 organic agriculture.

7.27 (e) \$600,000 the first year and \$420,000 the  
7.28 second year are to maintain the current level  
7.29 of service delivery. The base for this  
7.30 appropriation is ~~\$490,000~~ \$510,000 for fiscal  
7.31 year 2026 and each year thereafter.

7.32 (f) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the  
7.33 second year are for mental health outreach and  
7.34 support to farmers, ranchers, and others in the  
7.35 agricultural community and for farm safety

8.1 grant and outreach programs under Minnesota  
 8.2 Statutes, section 17.1195. Mental health  
 8.3 outreach and support may include a 24-hour  
 8.4 hotline, stigma reduction, and education.  
 8.5 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
 8.6 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not  
 8.7 cancel at the end of the first year and is  
 8.8 available in the second year. This is a onetime  
 8.9 appropriation.

8.10 (g) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the  
 8.11 second year are to award and administer grants  
 8.12 for infrastructure and other forms of financial  
 8.13 assistance to support EBT, SNAP, SFMNP,  
 8.14 and related programs at farmers markets.

8.15 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
 8.16 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not  
 8.17 cancel at the end of the first year and is  
 8.18 available in the second year. This is a onetime  
 8.19 appropriation.

8.20 (h) \$200,000 the first year and \$200,000 the  
 8.21 second year are to award cooperative grants  
 8.22 under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.1016.

8.23 The commissioner may use up to 6.5 percent  
 8.24 of the appropriation each year to administer  
 8.25 the grant program. Notwithstanding Minnesota  
 8.26 Statutes, section 16A.28, any unencumbered  
 8.27 balance does not cancel at the end of the first  
 8.28 year and is available in the second year. This  
 8.29 is a onetime appropriation.

8.30	<b>Subd. 4. Agriculture, Bioenergy, and Bioproduct</b>	<del>37,809,000</del>	<del>33,809,000</del>
8.31	<b>Advancement</b>	<u>34,034,000</u>	<u>38,159,000</u>

8.32 (a) \$10,702,000 the first year and \$10,702,000  
 8.33 the second year are for the agriculture  
 8.34 research, education, extension, and technology  
 8.35 transfer program under Minnesota Statutes,



9.1 section 41A.14. Except as provided below,  
9.2 the appropriation each year is for transfer to  
9.3 the agriculture research, education, extension,  
9.4 and technology transfer account under  
9.5 Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.14,  
9.6 subdivision 3, and the commissioner shall  
9.7 transfer funds each year to the Board of  
9.8 Regents of the University of Minnesota for  
9.9 purposes of Minnesota Statutes, section  
9.10 41A.14. To the extent practicable, money  
9.11 expended under Minnesota Statutes, section  
9.12 41A.14, subdivision 1, clauses (1) and (2),  
9.13 must supplement and not supplant existing  
9.14 sources and levels of funding. The  
9.15 commissioner may use up to one percent of  
9.16 this appropriation for costs incurred to  
9.17 administer the program.

9.18 Of the amount appropriated for the agriculture  
9.19 research, education, extension, and technology  
9.20 transfer grant program under Minnesota  
9.21 Statutes, section 41A.14:

9.22 (1) \$600,000 the first year and \$600,000 the  
9.23 second year are for the Minnesota Agricultural  
9.24 Experiment Station's agriculture rapid  
9.25 response fund under Minnesota Statutes,  
9.26 section 41A.14, subdivision 1, clause (2);

9.27 (2) up to \$1,000,000 the first year and up to  
9.28 \$1,000,000 the second year are for research  
9.29 on avian influenza, salmonella, and other  
9.30 turkey-related diseases and disease prevention  
9.31 measures;

9.32 (3) \$2,250,000 the first year and \$2,250,000  
9.33 the second year are for grants to the Minnesota  
9.34 Agricultural Education Leadership Council to  
9.35 enhance agricultural education with priority

10.1 given to Farm Business Management  
10.2 challenge grants;

10.3 (4) \$450,000 the first year is for the cultivated  
10.4 wild rice breeding project at the North Central  
10.5 Research and Outreach Center to include a  
10.6 tenure track/research associate plant breeder;

10.7 (5) \$350,000 the first year and \$350,000 the  
10.8 second year are for potato breeding;

10.9 (6) \$802,000 the first year and \$802,000 the  
10.10 second year are to fund the Forever Green  
10.11 Initiative and protect the state's natural  
10.12 resources while increasing the efficiency,  
10.13 profitability, and productivity of Minnesota  
10.14 farmers by incorporating perennial and  
10.15 winter-annual crops into existing agricultural  
10.16 practices. The base for the allocation under  
10.17 this clause is \$802,000 in fiscal year 2026 and  
10.18 each year thereafter. By February 1 each year,  
10.19 the dean of the College of Food, Agricultural  
10.20 and Natural Resource Sciences must submit  
10.21 a report to the chairs and ranking minority  
10.22 members of the legislative committees with  
10.23 jurisdiction over agriculture finance and policy  
10.24 and higher education detailing uses of the  
10.25 funds in this paragraph, including  
10.26 administrative costs, and the achievements  
10.27 these funds contributed to; ~~and~~

10.28 (7) \$350,000 each year is for farm-scale winter  
10.29 greenhouse research and development  
10.30 coordinated by University of Minnesota  
10.31 Extension Regional Sustainable Development  
10.32 Partnerships. The allocation in this clause is  
10.33 onetime;.

- 11.1 (8) \$200,000 the second year is for research  
 11.2 on natural stands of wild rice; and
- 11.3 (9) \$250,000 the second year is for the  
 11.4 cultivated wild rice forward selection project  
 11.5 at the North Central Research and Outreach  
 11.6 Center, including a tenure track or research  
 11.7 associate plant scientist.
- 11.8 (b) The base for the agriculture research,  
 11.9 education, extension, and technology transfer  
 11.10 program is \$10,352,000 in fiscal year 2026  
 11.11 and \$10,352,000 in fiscal year 2027.
- 11.12 (c) ~~\$27,107,000~~ \$23,332,000 the first year ~~and~~  
 11.13 ~~\$23,107,000 the second year are~~ is for the  
 11.14 agricultural growth, research, and innovation  
 11.15 program under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 11.16 41A.12. Except as provided below, the  
 11.17 commissioner may allocate this appropriation  
 11.18 ~~each year~~ among the following areas:  
 11.19 facilitating the start-up, modernization,  
 11.20 improvement, or expansion of livestock  
 11.21 operations, including beginning and  
 11.22 transitioning livestock operations with  
 11.23 preference given to robotic dairy-milking  
 11.24 equipment; assisting value-added agricultural  
 11.25 businesses to begin or expand, to access new  
 11.26 markets, or to diversify, including aquaponics  
 11.27 systems, with preference given to hemp fiber  
 11.28 processing equipment; facilitating the start-up,  
 11.29 modernization, or expansion of other  
 11.30 beginning and transitioning farms, including  
 11.31 by providing loans under Minnesota Statutes,  
 11.32 section 41B.056; sustainable agriculture  
 11.33 on-farm research and demonstration; the  
 11.34 development or expansion of food hubs and  
 11.35 other alternative community-based food

12.1 distribution systems; enhancing renewable  
 12.2 energy infrastructure and use; crop research,  
 12.3 including basic and applied turf seed research;  
 12.4 Farm Business Management tuition assistance;  
 12.5 and good agricultural practices and good  
 12.6 handling practices certification assistance. The  
 12.7 commissioner may use up to 6.5 percent of  
 12.8 this appropriation for costs incurred to  
 12.9 administer the program.

12.10 Of the amount appropriated for the agricultural  
 12.11 growth, research, and innovation program  
 12.12 under Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.12:

12.13 (1) ~~\$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000~~  
 12.14 ~~the second year are~~ is for distribution in equal  
 12.15 amounts to each of the state's county fairs to  
 12.16 preserve and promote Minnesota agriculture;

12.17 (2) ~~\$5,750,000 the first year and \$5,750,000~~  
 12.18 ~~the second year are~~ is for incentive payments  
 12.19 under Minnesota Statutes, sections 41A.16,  
 12.20 41A.17, 41A.18, and 41A.20. Notwithstanding  
 12.21 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, the first  
 12.22 year appropriation is available until June 30,  
 12.23 2025, ~~and the second year appropriation is~~  
 12.24 ~~available until June 30, 2026.~~ If this  
 12.25 appropriation exceeds the total amount for  
 12.26 which all producers are eligible in a fiscal  
 12.27 year, the balance of the appropriation is  
 12.28 available for other purposes under this  
 12.29 paragraph. ~~The base under this clause is~~  
 12.30 ~~\$3,000,000 in fiscal year 2026 and each year~~  
 12.31 ~~thereafter;~~

12.32 (3) ~~\$3,375,000 the first year and \$3,375,000~~  
 12.33 ~~the second year are~~ is for grants that enable  
 12.34 retail petroleum dispensers, fuel storage tanks,  
 12.35 and other equipment to dispense biofuels to

13.1 the public in accordance with the biofuel  
13.2 replacement goals established under  
13.3 Minnesota Statutes, section 239.7911. A retail  
13.4 petroleum dispenser selling petroleum for use  
13.5 in spark ignition engines for vehicle model  
13.6 years after 2000 is eligible for grant money  
13.7 under this clause if the retail petroleum  
13.8 dispenser has no more than 10 retail petroleum  
13.9 dispensing sites and each site is located in  
13.10 Minnesota. The grant money must be used to  
13.11 replace or upgrade equipment that does not  
13.12 have the ability to be certified for E25. A grant  
13.13 award must not exceed 65 percent of the cost  
13.14 of the appropriate technology. A grant award  
13.15 must not exceed \$200,000 per station. The  
13.16 commissioner must cooperate with biofuel  
13.17 stakeholders in the implementation of the grant  
13.18 program. The commissioner, in cooperation  
13.19 with any economic or community development  
13.20 financial institution and any other entity with  
13.21 which the commissioner contracts, must  
13.22 submit a report on the biofuels infrastructure  
13.23 financial assistance program by January 15 of  
13.24 each year to the chairs and ranking minority  
13.25 members of the legislative committees and  
13.26 divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture  
13.27 policy and finance. The annual report must  
13.28 include but not be limited to a summary of the  
13.29 following metrics: (i) the number and types  
13.30 of projects financed; (ii) the amount of dollars  
13.31 leveraged or matched per project; (iii) the  
13.32 geographic distribution of financed projects;  
13.33 (iv) any market expansion associated with  
13.34 upgraded infrastructure; (v) the demographics  
13.35 of the areas served; (vi) the costs of the  
13.36 program; and (vii) the number of grants to

14.1 minority-owned or female-owned businesses:

14.2 ~~The base under this clause is \$3,000,000 for~~

14.3 ~~fiscal year 2026 and each year thereafter;~~

14.4 (4) \$1,250,000 the first year ~~and \$1,250,000~~

14.5 ~~the second year are~~ is for grants to facilitate

14.6 the start-up, modernization, or expansion of

14.7 meat, poultry, egg, and milk processing

14.8 facilities. A grant award under this clause must

14.9 not exceed \$200,000. Any unencumbered

14.10 balance at the end of the second year does not

14.11 cancel until June 30, 2026, and may be used

14.12 for other purposes under this paragraph. ~~The~~

14.13 ~~base under this clause is \$250,000 in fiscal~~

14.14 ~~year 2026 and each year thereafter;~~

14.15 (5) \$1,150,000 the first year ~~and \$1,150,000~~

14.16 ~~the second year are~~ is for providing more

14.17 fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, grain, and

14.18 dairy for children in school and early

14.19 childhood education ~~centers~~ settings,

14.20 including, at the commissioner's discretion,

14.21 providing grants to reimburse schools and

14.22 early childhood education ~~centers~~ and child

14.23 care providers for purchasing equipment and

14.24 agricultural products. Organizations must

14.25 participate in the National School Lunch

14.26 Program or the Child and Adult Care Food

14.27 Program to be eligible. Of the amount

14.28 appropriated, \$150,000 ~~each year~~ is for a

14.29 statewide coordinator of farm-to-institution

14.30 strategy and programming. The coordinator

14.31 must consult with relevant stakeholders and

14.32 provide technical assistance and training for

14.33 participating farmers and eligible grant

14.34 recipients. ~~The base under this clause is~~

- 15.1 ~~\$1,294,000 in fiscal year 2026 and each year~~  
 15.2 ~~thereafter;~~
- 15.3 ~~(6) \$4,000,000 the first year is for Dairy~~  
 15.4 ~~Assistance, Investment, Relief Initiative~~  
 15.5 ~~(DAIRI) grants and other forms of financial~~  
 15.6 ~~assistance to Minnesota dairy farms that enroll~~  
 15.7 ~~in coverage under a federal dairy risk~~  
 15.8 ~~protection program and produced no more~~  
 15.9 ~~than 16,000,000 pounds of milk in 2022. The~~  
 15.10 ~~commissioner must make DAIRI payments~~  
 15.11 ~~based on the amount of milk produced in~~  
 15.12 ~~2022, up to 5,000,000 pounds per participating~~  
 15.13 ~~farm, at a rate determined by the commissioner~~  
 15.14 ~~within the limits of available funding. Any~~  
 15.15 ~~unencumbered balance does not cancel at the~~  
 15.16 ~~end of the first year and is available in the~~  
 15.17 ~~second year. Any unencumbered balance at~~  
 15.18 ~~the end of the second year does not cancel~~  
 15.19 ~~until June 30, 2026, and may be used for other~~  
 15.20 ~~purposes under this paragraph. The allocation~~  
 15.21 ~~in this clause is onetime;~~
- 15.22 ~~(7) (6) \$2,000,000 the first year and~~  
 15.23 ~~\$2,000,000 the second year are~~ is for urban  
 15.24 youth agricultural education or urban  
 15.25 agriculture community development; ~~and~~
- 15.26 ~~(8) (7) \$1,000,000 the first year and~~  
 15.27 ~~\$1,000,000 the second year are~~ is for the good  
 15.28 food access program under Minnesota  
 15.29 Statutes, section 17.1017-; and
- 15.30 (8) \$225,000 the first year is to provide grants  
 15.31 to secondary career and technical education  
 15.32 programs for the purpose of offering  
 15.33 instruction in meat cutting and butchery.  
 15.34 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
 15.35 16B.98, subdivision 14, the commissioner may

16.1 use up to 6.5 percent of this appropriation for  
16.2 administrative costs. This is a onetime  
16.3 appropriation. Grants may be used for costs,  
16.4 including but not limited to:  
16.5 (i) equipment required for a meat cutting  
16.6 program;  
16.7 (ii) facility renovation to accommodate meat  
16.8 cutting; and  
16.9 (iii) training faculty to teach the fundamentals  
16.10 of meat processing.  
16.11 A grant recipient may be awarded a grant of  
16.12 up to \$75,000 and may use up to ten percent  
16.13 of the grant for faculty training. Priority may  
16.14 be given to applicants who are coordinating  
16.15 with meat cutting and butchery programs at  
16.16 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities  
16.17 institutions or with local industry partners.  
16.18 By January 15, 2025, the commissioner must  
16.19 report to the chairs and ranking minority  
16.20 members of the legislative committees with  
16.21 jurisdiction over agriculture finance and  
16.22 education finance by listing the grants made  
16.23 under this paragraph by county and noting the  
16.24 number and amount of grant requests not  
16.25 fulfilled. The report may include additional  
16.26 information as determined by the  
16.27 commissioner, including but not limited to  
16.28 information regarding the outcomes produced  
16.29 by these grants. If additional grants are  
16.30 awarded under this paragraph that were not  
16.31 covered in the report due by January 15, 2025,  
16.32 the commissioner must submit an additional  
16.33 report to the chairs and ranking minority  
16.34 members of the legislative committees with



17.1 jurisdiction over agriculture finance and  
17.2 education finance regarding all grants issued  
17.3 under this paragraph by November 1, 2025.

17.4 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
17.5 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not  
17.6 cancel at the end of the first year and is  
17.7 available for the second year, and  
17.8 appropriations encumbered under contract on  
17.9 or before June 30, 2025, for agricultural  
17.10 growth, research, and innovation grants are  
17.11 available until June 30, 2028.

17.12 (d) \$27,457,000 the second year is for the  
17.13 agricultural growth, research, and innovation  
17.14 program under Minnesota Statutes, section  
17.15 41A.12. Except as provided below, the  
17.16 commissioner may allocate this appropriation  
17.17 among the following areas: facilitating the  
17.18 start-up, modernization, improvement, or  
17.19 expansion of livestock operations, including  
17.20 beginning and transitioning livestock  
17.21 operations with preference given to robotic  
17.22 dairy-milking equipment; assisting  
17.23 value-added agricultural businesses to begin  
17.24 or expand, to access new markets, or to  
17.25 diversify, including aquaponics systems, with  
17.26 preference given to hemp fiber processing  
17.27 equipment; facilitating the start-up,  
17.28 modernization, or expansion of other  
17.29 beginning and transitioning farms, including  
17.30 by providing loans under Minnesota Statutes,  
17.31 section 41B.056; sustainable agriculture  
17.32 on-farm research and demonstration; the  
17.33 development or expansion of food hubs and  
17.34 other alternative community-based food  
17.35 distribution systems; enhancing renewable

18.1 energy infrastructure and use; crop research,  
18.2 including basic and applied turf seed research;  
18.3 Farm Business Management tuition assistance;  
18.4 and good agricultural practices and good  
18.5 handling practices certification assistance. The  
18.6 commissioner may use up to 6.5 percent of  
18.7 this appropriation for costs incurred to  
18.8 administer the program.

18.9 Of the amount appropriated for the agricultural  
18.10 growth, research, and innovation program  
18.11 under Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.12:

18.12 (1) \$1,000,000 the second year is for  
18.13 distribution in equal amounts to each of the  
18.14 state's county fairs to preserve and promote  
18.15 Minnesota agriculture;

18.16 (2) \$5,750,000 the second year is for incentive  
18.17 payments under Minnesota Statutes, sections  
18.18 41A.16, 41A.17, 41A.18, and 41A.20.

18.19 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
18.20 16A.28, this appropriation is available until  
18.21 June 30, 2027. If this appropriation exceeds  
18.22 the total amount for which all producers are  
18.23 eligible in a fiscal year, the balance of the  
18.24 appropriation is available for other purposes  
18.25 under this paragraph. The base under this  
18.26 clause is \$3,000,000 in fiscal year 2026 and  
18.27 each year thereafter;

18.28 (3) \$3,375,000 the second year is for grants  
18.29 that enable retail petroleum dispensers, fuel  
18.30 storage tanks, and other equipment to dispense  
18.31 biofuels to the public in accordance with the  
18.32 biofuel replacement goals established under  
18.33 Minnesota Statutes, section 239.7911. A retail  
18.34 petroleum dispenser selling petroleum for use  
18.35 in spark ignition engines for vehicle model

19.1 years after 2000 is eligible for grant money  
19.2 under this clause if the retail petroleum  
19.3 dispenser has no more than ten retail  
19.4 petroleum dispensing sites and each site is  
19.5 located in Minnesota. The grant money must  
19.6 be used to replace or upgrade equipment that  
19.7 does not have the ability to be certified for  
19.8 E25. A grant award must not exceed 65  
19.9 percent of the cost of the appropriate  
19.10 technology. A grant award must not exceed  
19.11 \$200,000 per station. The commissioner must  
19.12 cooperate with biofuel stakeholders in the  
19.13 implementation of the grant program. The  
19.14 commissioner, in cooperation with any  
19.15 economic or community development  
19.16 financial institution and any other entity with  
19.17 which the commissioner contracts, must  
19.18 submit a report on the biofuels infrastructure  
19.19 financial assistance program by January 15 of  
19.20 each year to the chairs and ranking minority  
19.21 members of the legislative committees and  
19.22 divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture  
19.23 policy and finance. The annual report must  
19.24 include but not be limited to a summary of the  
19.25 following metrics: (i) the number and types  
19.26 of projects financed; (ii) the amount of money  
19.27 leveraged or matched per project; (iii) the  
19.28 geographic distribution of financed projects;  
19.29 (iv) any market expansion associated with  
19.30 upgraded infrastructure; (v) the demographics  
19.31 of the areas served; (vi) the costs of the  
19.32 program; and (vii) the number of grants to  
19.33 minority-owned or female-owned businesses.  
19.34 The base under this clause is \$3,000,000 for  
19.35 fiscal year 2026 and each year thereafter;

20.1 (4) \$1,250,000 the second year is for grants  
20.2 to facilitate the start-up, modernization, or  
20.3 expansion of meat, poultry, egg, and milk  
20.4 processing facilities. A grant award under this  
20.5 clause must not exceed \$200,000. Any  
20.6 unencumbered balance at the end of the second  
20.7 year does not cancel until June 30, 2027, and  
20.8 may be used for other purposes under this  
20.9 paragraph. The base under this clause is  
20.10 \$250,000 in fiscal year 2026 and each year  
20.11 thereafter;

20.12 (5) \$1,275,000 the second year is for providing  
20.13 more fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, grain,  
20.14 and dairy for children in school and early  
20.15 childhood education settings, including, at the  
20.16 commissioner's discretion, providing grants  
20.17 to reimburse schools and early childhood  
20.18 education and child care providers for  
20.19 purchasing equipment and agricultural  
20.20 products. Organizations must participate in  
20.21 the National School Lunch Program or the  
20.22 Child and Adult Care Food Program to be  
20.23 eligible. Of the amount appropriated, \$150,000  
20.24 is for a statewide coordinator of  
20.25 farm-to-institution strategy and programming.  
20.26 The coordinator must consult with relevant  
20.27 stakeholders and provide technical assistance  
20.28 and training for participating farmers and  
20.29 eligible grant recipients. The base under this  
20.30 clause is \$1,294,000 in fiscal year 2026 and  
20.31 each year thereafter;

20.32 (6) \$4,000,000 the second year is for Dairy  
20.33 Assistance, Investment, Relief Initiative  
20.34 (DAIRI) grants and other forms of financial  
20.35 assistance to Minnesota dairy farms that enroll

21.1 in coverage under a federal dairy risk  
21.2 protection program and produced no more  
21.3 than 16,000,000 pounds of milk in 2022. The  
21.4 commissioner must make DAIRI payments  
21.5 based on the amount of milk produced in  
21.6 2022, up to 5,000,000 pounds per participating  
21.7 farm, at a rate determined by the commissioner  
21.8 within the limits of available funding. Any  
21.9 unencumbered balance on June 30, 2026, may  
21.10 be used for other purposes under this  
21.11 paragraph. The allocation in this clause is  
21.12 onetime;  
21.13 (7) \$2,000,000 the second year is for urban  
21.14 youth agricultural education or urban  
21.15 agriculture community development;  
21.16 (8) \$1,000,000 the second year is for the good  
21.17 food access program under Minnesota  
21.18 Statutes, section 17.1017; and  
21.19 (9) \$225,000 the second year is for the  
21.20 protecting livestock grant program for  
21.21 producers to support the installation of  
21.22 measures to prevent the transmission of avian  
21.23 influenza. For the appropriation in this  
21.24 paragraph, a grant applicant must document  
21.25 a cost-share of 20 percent. An applicant's  
21.26 cost-share amount may be reduced up to  
21.27 \$2,000 to cover time and labor costs.  
21.28 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
21.29 16B.98, subdivision 14, the commissioner may  
21.30 use up to 6.5 percent of this appropriation for  
21.31 administrative costs. This appropriation is  
21.32 available until June 30, 2027. This is a onetime  
21.33 appropriation. Notwithstanding Minnesota  
21.34 Statutes, section 16A.28, this appropriation  
21.35 does not cancel at the end of the second year

22.1 and is available until June 30, 2027.  
 22.2 Appropriations encumbered under contract on  
 22.3 or before June 30, 2027, for agricultural  
 22.4 growth, research, and innovation grants are  
 22.5 available until June 30, 2030.

22.6 ~~(d)~~ (e) The base for the agricultural growth,  
 22.7 research, and innovation program is  
 22.8 ~~\$16,294,000~~ \$17,582,000 in fiscal year 2026  
 22.9 and each year thereafter and includes \$200,000  
 22.10 each year for cooperative development grants.

22.11	<b>Subd. 5. Administration and Financial</b>	<del>16,618,000</del>	<del>14,287,000</del>
22.12	<b>Assistance</b>	<u>16,643,000</u>	<u>14,587,000</u>

22.13 (a) \$474,000 the first year and \$474,000 the  
 22.14 second year are for payments to county and  
 22.15 district agricultural societies and associations  
 22.16 under Minnesota Statutes, section 38.02,  
 22.17 subdivision 1. Aid payments to county and  
 22.18 district agricultural societies and associations  
 22.19 must be disbursed no later than July 15 of each  
 22.20 year. These payments are the amount of aid  
 22.21 from the state for an annual fair held in the  
 22.22 previous calendar year.

22.23 (b) \$350,000 the first year and \$350,000 the  
 22.24 second year are for grants to the Minnesota  
 22.25 Agricultural Education and Leadership  
 22.26 Council for programs of the council under  
 22.27 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 41D. The base for  
 22.28 this appropriation is \$250,000 in fiscal year  
 22.29 2026 and each year thereafter.

22.30 (c) \$2,000 the first year is for a grant to the  
 22.31 Minnesota State Poultry Association. This is  
 22.32 a onetime appropriation. Notwithstanding  
 22.33 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any  
 22.34 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the

23.1 end of the first year and is available for the  
23.2 second year.

23.3 (d) \$18,000 the first year and \$18,000 the  
23.4 second year are for grants to the Minnesota  
23.5 Livestock Breeders Association. This is a  
23.6 onetime appropriation.

23.7 (e) \$60,000 the first year and \$60,000 the  
23.8 second year are for grants to the Northern  
23.9 Crops Institute that may be used to purchase  
23.10 equipment. This is a onetime appropriation.

23.11 (f) \$34,000 the first year and \$34,000 the  
23.12 second year are for grants to the Minnesota  
23.13 State Horticultural Society. This is a onetime  
23.14 appropriation.

23.15 (g) \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the  
23.16 second year are for grants to the Center for  
23.17 Rural Policy and Development. This is a  
23.18 onetime appropriation.

23.19 (h) \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the  
23.20 second year are appropriated from the general  
23.21 fund to the commissioner of agriculture for  
23.22 grants to the Minnesota Turf Seed Council for  
23.23 basic and applied research on: (1) the  
23.24 improved production of forage and turf seed  
23.25 related to new and improved varieties; and (2)  
23.26 native plants, including plant breeding,  
23.27 nutrient management, pest management,  
23.28 disease management, yield, and viability. The  
23.29 Minnesota Turf Seed Council may subcontract  
23.30 with a qualified third party for some or all of  
23.31 the basic or applied research. Any  
23.32 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the  
23.33 end of the first year and is available in the  
23.34 second year. The Minnesota Turf Seed Council

24.1 must prepare a report outlining the use of the  
24.2 grant money and related accomplishments. No  
24.3 later than January 15, 2025, the council must  
24.4 submit the report to the chairs and ranking  
24.5 minority members of the legislative  
24.6 committees and divisions with jurisdiction  
24.7 over agriculture finance and policy. This is a  
24.8 onetime appropriation.

24.9 (i) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the  
24.10 second year are for grants to GreenSeam for  
24.11 assistance to agriculture-related businesses to  
24.12 support business retention and development,  
24.13 business attraction and creation, talent  
24.14 development and attraction, and regional  
24.15 branding and promotion. These are onetime  
24.16 appropriations. No later than December 1,  
24.17 2024, and December 1, 2025, GreenSeam  
24.18 must report to the chairs and ranking minority  
24.19 members of the legislative committees with  
24.20 jurisdiction over agriculture and rural  
24.21 development with information on new and  
24.22 existing businesses supported, number of new  
24.23 jobs created in the region, new educational  
24.24 partnerships and programs supported, and  
24.25 regional branding and promotional efforts.

24.26 (j) \$1,950,000 the first year and \$1,950,000  
24.27 the second year are for grants to Second  
24.28 Harvest Heartland on behalf of Minnesota's  
24.29 six Feeding America food banks for the  
24.30 following purposes:

24.31 (1) at least \$850,000 each year must be  
24.32 allocated to purchase milk for distribution to  
24.33 Minnesota's food shelves and other charitable  
24.34 organizations that are eligible to receive food  
24.35 from the food banks. Milk purchased under



25.1 the grants must be acquired from Minnesota  
25.2 milk processors and based on low-cost bids.  
25.3 The milk must be allocated to each Feeding  
25.4 America food bank serving Minnesota  
25.5 according to the formula used in the  
25.6 distribution of United States Department of  
25.7 Agriculture commodities under The  
25.8 Emergency Food Assistance Program. Second  
25.9 Harvest Heartland may enter into contracts or  
25.10 agreements with food banks for shared funding  
25.11 or reimbursement of the direct purchase of  
25.12 milk. Each food bank that receives funding  
25.13 under this clause may use up to two percent  
25.14 for administrative expenses. Notwithstanding  
25.15 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any  
25.16 unencumbered balance the first year does not  
25.17 cancel and is available the second year;

25.18 (2) to compensate agricultural producers and  
25.19 processors for costs incurred to harvest and  
25.20 package for transfer surplus fruits, vegetables,  
25.21 and other agricultural commodities that would  
25.22 otherwise go unharvested, be discarded, or be  
25.23 sold in a secondary market. Surplus  
25.24 commodities must be distributed statewide to  
25.25 food shelves and other charitable organizations  
25.26 that are eligible to receive food from the food  
25.27 banks. Surplus food acquired under this clause  
25.28 must be from Minnesota producers and  
25.29 processors. Second Harvest Heartland may  
25.30 use up to 15 percent of each grant awarded  
25.31 under this clause for administrative and  
25.32 transportation expenses; and

25.33 (3) to purchase and distribute protein products,  
25.34 including but not limited to pork, poultry, beef,  
25.35 dry legumes, cheese, and eggs to Minnesota's

26.1 food shelves and other charitable organizations  
26.2 that are eligible to receive food from the food  
26.3 banks. Second Harvest Heartland may use up  
26.4 to two percent of each grant awarded under  
26.5 this clause for administrative expenses. Protein  
26.6 products purchased under the grants must be  
26.7 acquired from Minnesota processors and  
26.8 producers.

26.9 Second Harvest Heartland must submit  
26.10 quarterly reports to the commissioner and the  
26.11 chairs and ranking minority members of the  
26.12 legislative committees with jurisdiction over  
26.13 agriculture finance in the form prescribed by  
26.14 the commissioner. The reports must include  
26.15 but are not limited to information on the  
26.16 expenditure of funds, the amount of milk or  
26.17 other commodities purchased, and the  
26.18 organizations to which this food was  
26.19 distributed. The base for this appropriation is  
26.20 \$1,700,000 for fiscal year 2026 and each year  
26.21 thereafter.

26.22 (k) \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the  
26.23 second year are for grants to the Southern  
26.24 Minnesota Initiative Foundation to promote  
26.25 local foods through an annual event that raises  
26.26 public awareness of local foods and connects  
26.27 local food producers and processors with  
26.28 potential buyers.

26.29 (l) \$300,000 the first year and \$300,000 the  
26.30 second year are for grants to The Good Acre  
26.31 for the Local Emergency Assistance Farmer  
26.32 Fund (LEAFF) program to compensate  
26.33 emerging farmers for crops donated to hunger  
26.34 relief organizations in Minnesota. This is a  
26.35 onetime appropriation.

27.1 (m) \$750,000 the first year and \$750,000 the  
27.2 second year are to expand the Emerging  
27.3 Farmers Office and provide services to  
27.4 beginning and emerging farmers to increase  
27.5 connections between farmers and market  
27.6 opportunities throughout the state. This  
27.7 appropriation may be used for grants,  
27.8 translation services, training programs, or  
27.9 other purposes in line with the  
27.10 recommendations of the Emerging Farmer  
27.11 Working Group established under Minnesota  
27.12 Statutes, section 17.055, subdivision 1. The  
27.13 base for this appropriation is \$1,000,000 in  
27.14 fiscal year 2026 and each year thereafter.

27.15 (n) \$50,000 the first year is to provide  
27.16 technical assistance and leadership in the  
27.17 development of a comprehensive and  
27.18 well-documented state aquaculture plan. The  
27.19 commissioner must provide the state  
27.20 aquaculture plan to the legislative committees  
27.21 with jurisdiction over agriculture finance and  
27.22 policy by February 15, 2025.

27.23 (o) \$337,000 the first year and \$337,000 the  
27.24 second year are for farm advocate services.  
27.25 Of these amounts, \$50,000 the first year and  
27.26 \$50,000 the second year are for the  
27.27 continuation of the farmland transition  
27.28 programs and may be used for grants to  
27.29 farmland access teams to provide technical  
27.30 assistance to potential beginning farmers.  
27.31 Farmland access teams must assist existing  
27.32 farmers and beginning farmers with  
27.33 transitioning farm ownership and farm  
27.34 operation. Services provided by teams may  
27.35 include but are not limited to mediation

28.1 assistance, designing contracts, financial  
28.2 planning, tax preparation, estate planning, and  
28.3 housing assistance.

28.4 (p) \$260,000 the first year and \$260,000 the  
28.5 second year are for a pass-through grant to  
28.6 Region Five Development Commission to  
28.7 provide, in collaboration with Farm Business  
28.8 Management, statewide mental health  
28.9 counseling support to Minnesota farm  
28.10 operators, families, and employees, and  
28.11 individuals who work with Minnesota farmers  
28.12 in a professional capacity. Region Five  
28.13 Development Commission may use up to 6.5  
28.14 percent of the grant awarded under this  
28.15 paragraph for administration.

28.16 (q) \$1,000,000 the first year is for transfer to  
28.17 the agricultural emergency account established  
28.18 under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.041.

28.19 (r) \$1,084,000 the first year and \$500,000 the  
28.20 second year are to support IT modernization  
28.21 efforts, including laying the technology  
28.22 foundations needed for improving customer  
28.23 interactions with the department for licensing  
28.24 and payments. This is a onetime appropriation.

28.25 (s) \$275,000 the first year is for technical  
28.26 assistance grants to certified community  
28.27 development financial institutions that  
28.28 participate in United States Department of  
28.29 Agriculture loan or grant programs for small  
28.30 or emerging farmers, including but not limited  
28.31 to the Increasing Land, Capital, and Market  
28.32 Access Program. For purposes of this  
28.33 paragraph, "emerging farmer" has the meaning  
28.34 given in Minnesota Statutes, section 17.055,  
28.35 subdivision 1. The commissioner may use up

29.1 to 6.5 percent of this appropriation for costs  
29.2 incurred to administer the program.  
29.3 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
29.4 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not  
29.5 cancel at the end of the first year and is  
29.6 available in the second year. This is a onetime  
29.7 appropriation.

29.8 (t) \$1,425,000 the first year and \$1,425,000  
29.9 the second year are for transfer to the  
29.10 agricultural and environmental revolving loan  
29.11 account established under Minnesota Statutes,  
29.12 section 17.117, subdivision 5a, for low-interest  
29.13 loans under Minnesota Statutes, section  
29.14 17.117.

29.15 (u) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the  
29.16 second year are for administrative support for  
29.17 the Rural Finance Authority.

29.18 (v) The base in fiscal years 2026 and 2027 is  
29.19 \$150,000 each year to coordinate  
29.20 climate-related activities and services within  
29.21 the Department of Agriculture and  
29.22 counterparts in local, state, and federal  
29.23 agencies and to hire a full-time climate  
29.24 implementation coordinator. The climate  
29.25 implementation coordinator must coordinate  
29.26 efforts seeking federal funding for Minnesota's  
29.27 agricultural climate adaptation and mitigation  
29.28 efforts and develop strategic partnerships with  
29.29 the private sector and nongovernment  
29.30 organizations.

29.31 (w) \$1,200,000 the first year and \$930,000 the  
29.32 second year are to maintain the current level  
29.33 of service delivery. The base for this  
29.34 appropriation is ~~\$1,085,000~~ \$1,065,000 in

30.1 fiscal year 2026 and ~~\$1,085,000~~ \$1,065,000  
30.2 in fiscal year 2027 and each year thereafter.

30.3 (x) \$250,000 the first year is for a grant to the  
30.4 Board of Regents of the University of  
30.5 Minnesota to purchase equipment for the  
30.6 Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory to test for  
30.7 chronic wasting disease, African swine fever,  
30.8 avian influenza, and other animal diseases.  
30.9 The Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory must  
30.10 report expenditures under this paragraph to  
30.11 the legislative committees with jurisdiction  
30.12 over agriculture finance and higher education  
30.13 with a report submitted by January 3, 2024,  
30.14 and a final report submitted by December 31,  
30.15 2024. The reports must include a list of  
30.16 equipment purchased, including the cost of  
30.17 each item.

30.18 (y) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000  
30.19 the second year are to award and administer  
30.20 down payment assistance grants under  
30.21 Minnesota Statutes, section 17.133, with  
30.22 priority given to ~~emerging farmers as defined~~  
30.23 ~~in Minnesota Statutes, section 17.055,~~  
30.24 subdivision 1 eligible applicants with no more  
30.25 than \$100,000 in annual gross farm product  
30.26 sales and eligible applicants who are producers  
30.27 of industrial hemp, cannabis, or one or more  
30.28 of the following specialty crops as defined by  
30.29 the United States Department of Agriculture  
30.30 for purposes of the specialty crop block grant  
30.31 program: fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried  
30.32 fruits, medicinal plants, culinary herbs and  
30.33 spices, horticulture crops, floriculture crops,  
30.34 and nursery crops. Notwithstanding Minnesota  
30.35 Statutes, section 16A.28, any unencumbered

31.1 balance at the end of the first year does not  
31.2 cancel and is available in the second year and  
31.3 appropriations encumbered under contract by  
31.4 June 30, 2025, are available until June 30,  
31.5 2027.

31.6 (z) \$222,000 the first year and \$322,000 the  
31.7 second year are for meat processing training  
31.8 and retention incentive grants under section  
31.9 5. The commissioner may use up to 6.5  
31.10 percent of this appropriation for costs incurred  
31.11 to administer the program. Notwithstanding  
31.12 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any  
31.13 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the  
31.14 end of the first year and is available in the  
31.15 second year. This is a onetime appropriation.

31.16 (aa) \$300,000 the first year and \$300,000 the  
31.17 second year are for transfer to the Board of  
31.18 Regents of the University of Minnesota to  
31.19 evaluate, propagate, and maintain the genetic  
31.20 diversity of oilseeds, grains, grasses, legumes,  
31.21 and other plants including flax, timothy,  
31.22 barley, rye, triticale, alfalfa, orchard grass,  
31.23 clover, and other species and varieties that  
31.24 were in commercial distribution and use in  
31.25 Minnesota before 1970, excluding wild rice.  
31.26 This effort must also protect traditional seeds  
31.27 brought to Minnesota by immigrant  
31.28 communities. This appropriation includes  
31.29 funding for associated extension and outreach  
31.30 to small and Black, Indigenous, and People of  
31.31 Color (BIPOC) farmers. This is a onetime  
31.32 appropriation.

31.33 (bb) \$300,000 the second year is to award and  
31.34 administer beginning farmer equipment and  
31.35 infrastructure grants under Minnesota Statutes,

32.1 section 17.055. This is a onetime  
 32.2 appropriation.  
 32.3 (cc) \$25,000 the first year is for the credit  
 32.4 market report. Notwithstanding Minnesota  
 32.5 Statutes, section 16A.28, any unencumbered  
 32.6 balance does not cancel at the end of the first  
 32.7 year and is available in the second year. This  
 32.8 is a onetime appropriation.

32.9 ~~(bb)~~ (dd) The commissioner shall continue to  
 32.10 increase connections with ethnic minority and  
 32.11 immigrant farmers to farming opportunities  
 32.12 and farming programs throughout the state.

32.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

32.14 Sec. 2. Laws 2023, chapter 43, article 1, section 4, is amended to read:

32.15	Sec. 4. <b>AGRICULTURAL UTILIZATION</b>		<b>6,143,000</b>	
32.16	<b>RESEARCH INSTITUTE</b>	\$	<u><b>6,368,000</b></u>	\$ <b>4,343,000</b>

32.17 (a) \$300,000 the first year is for equipment  
 32.18 upgrades, equipment replacement, installation  
 32.19 expenses, and laboratory infrastructure at the  
 32.20 Agricultural Utilization Research Institute's  
 32.21 laboratories in the cities of Crookston,  
 32.22 Marshall, and Waseca.

32.23 (b) \$1,500,000 the first year is to replace  
 32.24 analytical and processing equipment and make  
 32.25 corresponding facility upgrades at Agricultural  
 32.26 Utilization Research Institute facilities in the  
 32.27 cities of Marshall, Crookston, and Waseca. Of  
 32.28 this amount, up to \$500,000 may be used for  
 32.29 renewable natural gas and anaerobic digestion  
 32.30 projects. This is a onetime appropriation and  
 32.31 is available until June 30, 2026.



33.1 (c) \$300,000 the first year and \$300,000 the  
 33.2 second year are to maintain the current level  
 33.3 of service delivery.

33.4 (d) \$225,000 the first year is to support food  
 33.5 businesses. This is a onetime appropriation  
 33.6 and is available until June 30, 2026.

33.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

## 33.8 **ARTICLE 2**

### 33.9 **AGRICULTURE POLICY**

33.10 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 33.11 to read:

33.12 Subd. 1a. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the  
 33.13 meanings given.

33.14 (b) "Approved agent" means a person authorized by the Department of Agriculture to  
 33.15 determine if crop or fence damage was caused by elk and to assign a monetary value to the  
 33.16 crop or fence damage.

33.17 (c) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's  
 33.18 authorized representative.

33.19 (d) "Estimated value" means the current value of crops or fencing as determined by an  
 33.20 approved agent.

33.21 (e) "Owner" means an individual, firm, corporation, copartnership, or association with  
 33.22 an interest in crops or fencing damaged by elk.

33.23 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

33.24 Subd. 2. **Claim form and reporting.** (a) The owner must prepare a claim on forms  
 33.25 provided by the commissioner and available on the Department of Agriculture's ~~Agriculture~~  
 33.26 website or by request from the commissioner. ~~The claim form must be filed with the~~  
 33.27 ~~commissioner.~~

33.28 (b) After discovering crop or fence damage suspected to be caused by elk, an owner  
 33.29 must promptly notify an approved agent of the damage. To submit a claim for crop or fence  
 33.30 damage caused by elk, an owner must complete the required portions of the claim form

34.1 provided by the commissioner. An owner who has submitted a claim must provide an  
34.2 approved agent with all information required to investigate the crop or fence damage.

34.3 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
34.4 read:

34.5 Subd. 2a. **Investigation and crop valuation.** (a) Upon receiving notification of crop or  
34.6 fence damage suspected to be caused by elk, an approved agent must promptly investigate  
34.7 the damage in a timely manner. An approved agent must make written findings on the claim  
34.8 form regarding whether the crop or fence was destroyed or damaged by elk. The approved  
34.9 agent's findings must be based on physical and circumstantial evidence, including:

34.10 (1) the condition of the crop or fence;

34.11 (2) the presence of elk tracks;

34.12 (3) the geographic area of the state where the crop or fence damage occurred;

34.13 (4) any sightings of elk in the area; and

34.14 (5) any other circumstances that the approved agent considers to be relevant.

34.15 (b) The absence of affirmative evidence may be grounds for denial of a claim.

34.16 (c) On a claim form, an approved agent must make written findings of the extent of crop  
34.17 or fence damage and, if applicable, the amount of crop destroyed.

34.18 (d) For damage to standing crops, an owner may choose to have the approved agent use  
34.19 the method in clause (1) or (2) to complete the claim form and determine the amount of  
34.20 crop loss:

34.21 (1) to submit a claim form to the commissioner at the time that the suspected elk damage  
34.22 is discovered, the approved agent must record on the claim form: (i) the field's potential  
34.23 yield per acre; (ii) the field's average yield per acre that is expected on the damaged acres;  
34.24 (iii) the estimated value of the crop; and (iv) the total amount of loss. Upon completing the  
34.25 claim form, the approved agent must submit the form to the commissioner; or

34.26 (2) to submit a claim form to the commissioner at the time that the crop is harvested,  
34.27 the approved agent must record on the claim form at the time of the investigation: (i) the  
34.28 percent of crop loss from damage; (ii) the actual yield of the damaged field when the crop  
34.29 is harvested; (iii) the estimated value of the crop; and (iv) the total amount of loss. Upon  
34.30 completing the claim form, the approved agent must submit the form to the commissioner.

35.1 (e) For damage to stored crops, an approved agent must record on the claim form: (1)  
 35.2 the type and volume of destroyed stored crops; (2) the estimated value of the crop; and (3)  
 35.3 the total amount of loss.

35.4 (f) For damage to fencing, an approved agent must record on the claim form: (1) the  
 35.5 type of materials damaged; (2) the linear feet of the damage; (3) the value of the materials  
 35.6 per unit according to National Resource Conservation Service specifications; and (4) the  
 35.7 calculated total damage to the fence.

35.8 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
 35.9 read:

35.10 Subd. 2b. **Claim form.** A completed claim form must be signed by the owner and an  
 35.11 approved agent. An approved agent must submit the claim form to the commissioner for  
 35.12 the commissioner's review and payment. The commissioner must return an incomplete claim  
 35.13 form to the approved agent. When returning an incomplete claim form to an approved agent,  
 35.14 the commissioner must indicate which information is missing from the claim form.

35.15 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

35.16 Subd. 3. **Compensation.** (a) ~~The crop~~ An owner is entitled to the ~~target price or the~~  
 35.17 ~~market price, whichever is greater,~~ estimated value of the damaged or destroyed crop ~~plus~~  
 35.18 ~~adjustments for yield loss determined according to agricultural stabilization and conservation~~  
 35.19 ~~service programs for individual farms, adjusted annually, as determined by the commissioner,~~  
 35.20 ~~upon recommendation of the commissioner's approved agent for the owner's county or~~  
 35.21 fence. Verification of crop or fence damage or destruction by elk may be provided by  
 35.22 submitting photographs or other evidence and documentation ~~together with a statement~~  
 35.23 ~~from an independent witness~~ using forms prescribed by the commissioner. The commissioner,  
 35.24 upon recommendation of the commissioner's approved agent, shall determine whether the  
 35.25 crop damage or destruction or damage to or destruction of a fence surrounding a crop or  
 35.26 pasture is caused by elk and, if so, the amount of the crop or fence that is damaged or  
 35.27 destroyed. In any fiscal year, an owner may not be compensated for a damaged or destroyed  
 35.28 crop or fence surrounding a crop or pasture that is less than \$100 in value and may be  
 35.29 compensated up to \$20,000, as determined under this section, ~~if normal harvest procedures~~  
 35.30 for the area are followed. An owner may not be compensated more than \$1,800 per fiscal  
 35.31 year for damage to fencing surrounding a crop or pasture.

35.32 (b) In any fiscal year, the commissioner may provide compensation for claims filed  
 35.33 under this section up to the amount expressly appropriated for this purpose.

36.1 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 17.055, subdivision 3, is amended  
36.2 to read:

36.3 Subd. 3. **Beginning farmer equipment and infrastructure grants.** (a) The commissioner  
36.4 may award and administer equipment and infrastructure grants to beginning farmers. The  
36.5 commissioner shall give preference to applicants who are ~~emerging farmers~~ experiencing  
36.6 limited land access or limited market access as those terms are defined in section 17.133,  
36.7 subdivision 1. Grant money may be used for equipment and infrastructure development.

36.8 (b) The commissioner shall develop competitive eligibility criteria and may allocate  
36.9 grants on a needs basis.

36.10 (c) Grant projects may continue for up to two years.

36.11 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 17.116, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

36.12 Subd. 2. **Eligibility.** (a) Grants may ~~only~~ be made to farmers, and organizations such as  
36.13 farms, agricultural cooperatives, educational institutions, individuals at educational  
36.14 institutions, ~~or~~ nonprofit organizations, Tribal governments, or local units of government  
36.15 residing or located in the state for research or demonstrations on farms in the state.

36.16 (b) Grants may only be made for projects that show:

36.17 (1) the ability to maximize direct or indirect energy savings or production;

36.18 (2) a positive effect or reduced adverse effect on the environment; or

36.19 (3) increased profitability for the individual farm by reducing costs or improving  
36.20 marketing opportunities.

36.21 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 17.133, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

36.22 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have  
36.23 the meanings given.

36.24 (b) "Eligible farmer" means an individual who at the time that the grant is awarded:

36.25 (1) is a resident of Minnesota who intends to acquire farmland located within the state  
36.26 and provide the majority of the day-to-day physical labor and management of the farm;

36.27 (2) grosses no more than \$250,000 per year from the sale of farm products; ~~and~~

36.28 (3) has not, and whose spouse has not, at any time had a direct or indirect ownership  
36.29 interest in farmland; and

37.1 (4) is not, and whose spouse is not, related by blood or marriage to an owner of the  
 37.2 farmland that the individual intends to acquire.

37.3 (c) "Farm down payment" means an initial, partial payment required by a lender or seller  
 37.4 to purchase farmland.

37.5 (d) "Incubator farm" means a farm where:

37.6 (1) individuals are given temporary, exclusive, and affordable access to small parcels  
 37.7 of land, infrastructure, and often training, for the purpose of honing skills and launching a  
 37.8 farm business; and

37.9 (2) a majority of the individuals farming the small parcels of land grow industrial hemp,  
 37.10 cannabis, or one or more of the following specialty crops as defined by the United States  
 37.11 Department of Agriculture for purposes of the specialty crop block grant program: fruits  
 37.12 and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, medicinal plants, culinary herbs and spices, horticulture  
 37.13 crops, floriculture crops, and nursery crops.

37.14 (e) "Limited land access" means farming without ownership of land and:

37.15 (1) the individual or the individual's child rents or leases the land, with the term of each  
 37.16 rental or lease agreement not exceeding three years in duration, from a person who is not  
 37.17 related to the individual or the individual's spouse by blood or marriage; or

37.18 (2) the individual rents the land from an incubator farm.

37.19 (f) "Limited market access" means the individual has gross sales of no more than  
 37.20 \$100,000 per year from the sale of farm products.

37.21 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 17.133, subdivision 3, is amended  
 37.22 to read:

37.23 Subd. 3. **Report to legislature.** No later than December 1, 2023, and annually thereafter,  
 37.24 the commissioner must provide a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the  
 37.25 legislative committees having jurisdiction over agriculture and rural development, in  
 37.26 compliance with sections 3.195 and 3.197, on the farm down payment assistance grants  
 37.27 under this section. The report must include:

37.28 (1) background information on beginning farmers in Minnesota and any other information  
 37.29 that the commissioner and authority find relevant to evaluating the effect of the grants on  
 37.30 increasing opportunities for and the number of beginning farmers;

37.31 (2) the number and amount of grants;

- 38.1 (3) the geographic distribution of grants by county;
- 38.2 (4) the number of grant recipients who are emerging farmers;
- 38.3 (5) the number of grant recipients who were experiencing limited land access or limited
- 38.4 market access when the grant was awarded;
- 38.5 ~~(5)~~ (6) disaggregated data regarding the gender, race, and ethnicity of grant recipients;
- 38.6 ~~(6)~~ (7) the number of farmers who cease to own land and are subject to payment of a
- 38.7 penalty, along with the reasons for the land ownership cessation; and
- 38.8 ~~(7)~~ (8) the number and amount of grant applications that exceeded the allocation available
- 38.9 in each year.

38.10 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 17.134, subdivision 3, is amended

38.11 to read:

38.12 Subd. 3. **Grant eligibility.** Any owner or lessee of farmland may apply for a grant under

38.13 this section. The commissioner must give preference to owners and lessees that have not

38.14 previously implemented an eligible project and owners and lessees that are certified or

38.15 assessed and pursuing certification under sections 17.9891 to 17.993. Local government

38.16 units, including cities; towns; counties; soil and water conservation districts; Minnesota

38.17 Tribal governments as defined in section 10.65; and joint powers boards, are also eligible

38.18 for a grant. A local government unit that receives a grant for equipment or technology must

38.19 make those purchases available for use by the public.

38.20 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 17.134, is amended by adding a

38.21 subdivision to read:

38.22 Subd. 3a. **Equipment sales limitation.** In addition to the applicable grants management

38.23 requirements imposed under sections 16B.97 to 16B.991, an owner or lessee that receives

38.24 a grant under this section to purchase equipment must certify to the commissioner that the

38.25 owner or lessee will not sell the equipment for at least ten years.

38.26 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 17.710, is amended to read:

38.27 **17.710 AGRICULTURAL CONTRACTS.**

38.28 (a) A production or marketing contract entered into, renewed, or amended on or after

38.29 July 1, ~~1999~~ 2024, between an agricultural producer and a processor, marketer, or other

38.30 purchaser of agricultural products, including a cooperative organized under chapter 308A

38.31 or 308B must not contain provisions that prohibit the producer from disclosing terms,

39.1 conditions, and prices contained in the contract. Any provision prohibiting disclosure by  
39.2 the producer is void.

39.3 (b) A contract entered into, renewed, or amended on or after July 1, 2023, between an  
39.4 agricultural producer and an entity buying, selling, certifying, or otherwise participating in  
39.5 a market for stored carbon must not contain provisions that prohibit the producer from  
39.6 disclosing terms, conditions, and prices contained in the contract. Any provision prohibiting  
39.7 disclosure by the producer is void.

39.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2024.

39.9 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
39.10 read:

39.11 **Subd. 1d. Application or use of a pesticide.** "Application or use of a pesticide" includes:

39.12 (1) the dispersal of a pesticide on, in, at, or directed toward a target site;

39.13 (2) preapplication activities that involve the mixing and loading of a restricted use  
39.14 pesticide; and

39.15 (3) other restricted use pesticide-related activities, including but not limited to transporting  
39.16 or storing pesticide containers that have been opened; cleaning equipment; and disposing  
39.17 of excess pesticides, spray mix, equipment wash waters, pesticide containers, and other  
39.18 materials that contain pesticide.

39.19 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.26, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

39.20 **Subd. 6. Discontinuance or cancellation of registration.** (a) To ensure the complete  
39.21 withdrawal from distribution or further use of a pesticide, a person who intends to discontinue  
39.22 a pesticide registration must:

39.23 (1) terminate a further distribution within the state and continue to register the pesticide  
39.24 annually for two successive years; and

39.25 (2) initiate and complete a total recall of the pesticide from all distribution in the state  
39.26 within 60 days from the date of notification to the commissioner of intent to discontinue  
39.27 registration; ~~or~~.

39.28 ~~(3) submit to the commissioner evidence adequate to document that no distribution of~~  
39.29 ~~the registered pesticide has occurred in the state.~~

39.30 (b) Upon the request of a registrant, the commissioner may immediately cancel  
39.31 registration of a pesticide product. The commissioner may immediately cancel registration

40.1 of a pesticide product at the commissioner's discretion. When requesting that the  
 40.2 commissioner immediately cancel registration of a pesticide product, a registrant must  
 40.3 provide the commissioner with:

40.4 (1) a statement that the pesticide product is no longer in distribution; and

40.5 (2) documentation of pesticide gross sales from the previous year supporting the statement  
 40.6 under clause (1).

40.7 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.28, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
 40.8 read:

40.9 Subd. 5. **Advisory panel.** Before approving the issuance of an experimental use pesticide  
 40.10 product registration under this section, the commissioner must convene and consider the  
 40.11 advice of a panel of outside scientific and health experts. The panel must include but is not  
 40.12 limited to representatives of the Department of Health, the Department of Natural Resources,  
 40.13 the Pollution Control Agency, and the University of Minnesota.

40.14 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.305, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

40.15 Subd. 2. **Training manual and examination development.** The commissioner, in  
 40.16 consultation with University of Minnesota Extension and other higher education institutions,  
 40.17 shall continually revise and update pesticide applicator training manuals and examinations.  
 40.18 The manuals and examinations must be written to meet or exceed the minimum competency  
 40.19 standards required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and pertinent  
 40.20 state specific information. Pesticide applicator training manuals and examinations must  
 40.21 meet or exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171.  
 40.22 Competency standards for training manuals and examinations must be published on the  
 40.23 Department of Agriculture website. Questions in the examinations must be determined by  
 40.24 the commissioner in consultation with other responsible agencies. Manuals and examinations  
 40.25 must include pesticide management practices that discuss prevention of pesticide occurrence  
 40.26 in groundwater and surface water of the state, and economic thresholds and guidance for  
 40.27 insecticide use.

40.28 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.32, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

40.29 Subdivision 1. **Requirement.** (a) A person may not engage in structural pest control  
 40.30 applications:

40.31 (1) for hire without a structural pest control license; ~~and~~



41.1 (2) as a sole proprietorship, company, partnership, or corporation unless the person is  
 41.2 or employs a licensed master in structural pest control operations; and  
 41.3 (3) unless the person is 18 years of age or older.

41.4 (b) A structural pest control licensee must have a valid license identification card to  
 41.5 purchase a restricted use pesticide or apply pesticides for hire and must display it upon  
 41.6 demand by an authorized representative of the commissioner or a law enforcement officer.  
 41.7 The license identification card must contain information required by the commissioner.

41.8 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.32, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

41.9 Subd. 3. **Application.** (a) A person must apply to the commissioner for a structural pest  
 41.10 control license on forms and in the manner required by the commissioner. The commissioner  
 41.11 shall require the applicant to pass a written, closed-book, monitored examination or oral  
 41.12 examination, or both, ~~and may also require a practical demonstration regarding structural~~  
 41.13 ~~pest control.~~ The commissioner shall establish the examination procedure, including the  
 41.14 phases and contents of the examination.

41.15 (b) The commissioner may license a person as a master under a structural pest control  
 41.16 license if the person has the necessary qualifications through knowledge and experience to  
 41.17 properly plan, determine, and supervise the selection and application of pesticides in structural  
 41.18 pest control. To demonstrate the qualifications and become licensed as a master under a  
 41.19 structural pest control license, a person must:

41.20 (1) pass a closed-book test administered by the commissioner;

41.21 (2) have direct experience as a licensed journeyman under a structural pest control license  
 41.22 for at least two years by this state or a state with equivalent certification requirements or as  
 41.23 a full-time licensed master in another state with equivalent certification requirements; and

41.24 (3) show practical knowledge and field experience under clause (2) in the actual selection  
 41.25 and application of pesticides under varying conditions.

41.26 (c) The commissioner may license a person as a journeyman under a structural pest  
 41.27 control license if the person:

41.28 (1) has the necessary qualifications in the practical selection and application of pesticides;

41.29 (2) has passed a closed-book examination given by the commissioner; and

41.30 (3) is engaged as an employee of or is working under the direction of a person licensed  
 41.31 as a master under a structural pest control license.

42.1 (d) The commissioner may license a person as a fumigator under a structural pest control  
42.2 license if the person:

42.3 (1) has knowledge of the practical selection and application of fumigants;

42.4 (2) has passed a closed-book examination given by the commissioner; and

42.5 (3) is licensed by the commissioner as a master or journeyman under a structural pest  
42.6 control license.

42.7 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.32, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

42.8 Subd. 4. **Renewal.** (a) An applicator may apply to renew a structural pest control  
42.9 applicator license ~~may be renewed~~ on or before the expiration of an existing license subject  
42.10 to reexamination, attendance at ~~workshops~~ a recertification workshop approved by the  
42.11 commissioner, or other requirements imposed by the commissioner to provide the applicator  
42.12 with information regarding changing technology and to help assure a continuing level of  
42.13 competency and ability to use pesticides safely and properly. A recertification workshop  
42.14 must meet or exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40,  
42.15 part 171. Competency standards for a recertification workshop must be published on the  
42.16 Department of Agriculture website. If the commissioner requires an applicator to attend a  
42.17 recertification workshop and the applicator fails to attend the workshop, the commissioner  
42.18 may require the applicator to pass a reexamination. The commissioner may require an  
42.19 additional demonstration of applicator qualification if the applicator has had a license  
42.20 suspended or revoked or has otherwise had a history of violations of this chapter.

42.21 (b) If ~~a person~~ an applicator fails to renew a structural pest control license within three  
42.22 months of its expiration, the ~~person~~ applicator must obtain a structural pest control license  
42.23 subject to the requirements, procedures, and fees required for an initial license.

42.24 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.32, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

42.25 Subd. 5. **Financial responsibility.** (a) ~~A structural pest control license may not be issued~~  
42.26 ~~unless the applicant furnishes proof of financial responsibility.~~ The commissioner may  
42.27 suspend or revoke a structural pest control license if an applicator fails to provide proof of  
42.28 financial responsibility upon the commissioner's request. Financial responsibility may be  
42.29 demonstrated by:

42.30 (1) proof of net assets equal to or greater than \$50,000; or

42.31 (2) a performance bond or insurance of a kind and in an amount determined by the  
42.32 commissioner.

43.1 (b) The bond or insurance must cover a period of time at least equal to the term of the  
43.2 ~~applicant's~~ applicator's license. The commissioner must immediately suspend the license  
43.3 ~~of a person~~ an applicator who fails to maintain the required bond or insurance. The  
43.4 performance bond or insurance policy must contain a provision requiring the insurance or  
43.5 bonding company to notify the commissioner by ten days before the effective date of  
43.6 cancellation, termination, or any other change of the bond or insurance. If there is recovery  
43.7 against the bond or insurance, additional coverage must be secured by the applicator to  
43.8 maintain financial responsibility equal to the original amount required.

43.9 (c) An employee of a licensed person is not required to maintain an insurance policy or  
43.10 bond during the time the employer is maintaining the required insurance or bond.

43.11 (d) Applications for reinstatement of a license suspended under the provisions of this  
43.12 section must be accompanied by proof of satisfaction of judgments previously rendered.

43.13 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.33, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

43.14 Subdivision 1. **Requirement.** (a) A person may not apply a pesticide for hire without a  
43.15 commercial applicator license for the appropriate use categories or a structural pest control  
43.16 license.

43.17 (b) A commercial applicator licensee must have a valid license identification card to  
43.18 purchase a restricted use pesticide or apply pesticides for hire and must display it upon  
43.19 demand by an authorized representative of the commissioner or a law enforcement officer.  
43.20 The commissioner shall prescribe the information required on the license identification  
43.21 card.

43.22 (c) A person licensed under this section is considered qualified and is not required to  
43.23 verify, document, or otherwise prove a particular need prior to use, except as required by  
43.24 the federal label.

43.25 (d) A person who uses a general-use sanitizer or disinfectant for hire in response to  
43.26 COVID-19 is exempt from the commercial applicator license requirements under this section.

43.27 (e) A person licensed under this section must be 18 years of age or older.

43.28 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.33, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

43.29 Subd. 5. **Renewal application.** (a) ~~A person~~ An applicator must apply to the  
43.30 commissioner to renew a commercial applicator license. The commissioner may renew a  
43.31 commercial applicator license accompanied by the application fee, subject to reexamination,  
43.32 attendance at ~~workshops~~ a recertification workshop approved by the commissioner, or other

44.1 requirements imposed by the commissioner to provide the applicator with information  
 44.2 regarding changing technology and to help assure a continuing level of competence and  
 44.3 ability to use pesticides safely and properly. ~~The applicant~~ A recertification workshop must  
 44.4 meet or exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171.  
 44.5 Competency standards for a recertification workshop must be published on the Department  
 44.6 of Agriculture website. Upon the receipt of an applicator's renewal application, the  
 44.7 commissioner may require the applicator to attend a recertification workshop. Depending  
 44.8 on the application category, the commissioner may require an applicator to complete a  
 44.9 recertification workshop once per year, once every two years, or once every three years. If  
 44.10 the commissioner requires an applicator to attend a recertification workshop and the  
 44.11 applicator fails to attend the workshop, the commissioner may require the applicator to pass  
 44.12 a reexamination. An applicator may renew a commercial applicator license within 12 months  
 44.13 after expiration of the license without having to meet initial testing requirements. The  
 44.14 commissioner may require an additional demonstration of applicator qualification if a person  
 44.15 the applicator has had a license suspended or revoked or has had a history of violations of  
 44.16 this chapter.

44.17 (b) ~~An applicant~~ applicator that meets renewal requirements by reexamination instead  
 44.18 of attending ~~workshops~~ a recertification workshop must pay the equivalent workshop fee  
 44.19 for the reexamination as determined by the commissioner.

44.20 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.33, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

44.21 Subd. 6. **Financial responsibility.** ~~(a) A commercial applicator license may not be issued~~  
 44.22 ~~unless the applicant furnishes proof of financial responsibility. The commissioner may~~  
 44.23 suspend or revoke an applicator's commercial applicator license if the applicator fails to  
 44.24 provide proof of financial responsibility upon the commissioner's request. Financial  
 44.25 responsibility may be demonstrated by: (1) proof of net assets equal to or greater than  
 44.26 \$50,000; or (2) by a performance bond or insurance of the kind and in an amount determined  
 44.27 by the commissioner.

44.28 (b) The bond or insurance must cover a period of time at least equal to the term of the  
 44.29 ~~applicant's~~ applicator's license. The commissioner must immediately suspend the license  
 44.30 of ~~a person~~ an applicator who fails to maintain the required bond or insurance. The  
 44.31 performance bond or insurance policy must contain a provision requiring the insurance or  
 44.32 bonding company to notify the commissioner by ten days before the effective date of  
 44.33 cancellation, termination, or any other change of the bond or insurance. If there is recovery

45.1 against the bond or insurance, additional coverage must be secured by the applicator to  
45.2 maintain financial responsibility equal to the original amount required.

45.3 (c) An employee of a licensed ~~person~~ applicator is not required to maintain an insurance  
45.4 policy or bond during the time the employer is maintaining the required insurance or bond.

45.5 (d) Applications for reinstatement of a license suspended under the provisions of this  
45.6 section must be accompanied by proof of satisfaction of judgments previously rendered.

45.7 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.34, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

45.8 Subdivision 1. **Requirement.** (a) Except for a licensed commercial applicator, certified  
45.9 private applicator, or licensed structural pest control applicator, a person, including a  
45.10 government employee, may not purchase or use a restricted use pesticide in performance  
45.11 of official duties without having a noncommercial applicator license for an appropriate use  
45.12 category.

45.13 (b) A licensee must have a valid license identification card when applying pesticides  
45.14 and must display it upon demand by an authorized representative of the commissioner or a  
45.15 law enforcement officer. The license identification card must contain information required  
45.16 by the commissioner.

45.17 (c) A person licensed under this section is considered qualified and is not required to  
45.18 verify, document, or otherwise prove a particular need prior to use, except as required by  
45.19 the federal label.

45.20 (d) A person licensed under this section must be 18 years of age or older.

45.21 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.34, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

45.22 Subd. 4. **Renewal.** (a) ~~A person~~ An applicator must apply to the commissioner to renew  
45.23 a noncommercial applicator license. The commissioner may renew a license subject to  
45.24 reexamination, attendance at ~~workshops~~ a recertification workshop approved by the  
45.25 commissioner, or other requirements imposed by the commissioner to provide the applicator  
45.26 with information regarding changing technology and to help assure a continuing level of  
45.27 competence and ability to use pesticides safely and properly. A recertification workshop  
45.28 must meet or exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40,  
45.29 part 171. Competency standards for a recertification website must be published on the  
45.30 Department of Agriculture website. Upon the receipt of an applicator's renewal application,  
45.31 the commissioner may require the applicator to attend a recertification workshop. Depending  
45.32 on the application category, the commissioner may require an applicator to complete a

46.1 recertification workshop once per year, once every two years, or once every three years. If  
 46.2 the commissioner requires an applicator to attend a recertification workshop and the  
 46.3 applicator fails to attend the workshop, the commissioner may require the applicator to pass  
 46.4 a reexamination. The commissioner may require an additional demonstration of applicator  
 46.5 qualification if the applicator has had a license suspended or revoked or has otherwise had  
 46.6 a history of violations of this chapter.

46.7 (b) An ~~applicant~~ applicator that meets renewal requirements by reexamination instead  
 46.8 of attending ~~workshops~~ a recertification workshop must pay the equivalent workshop fee  
 46.9 for the reexamination as determined by the commissioner.

46.10 (c) An ~~applicant~~ applicator has 12 months to renew the license after expiration without  
 46.11 having to meet initial testing requirements.

46.12 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.35, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

46.13 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** (a) The commissioner may establish categories of  
 46.14 structural pest control, commercial applicator, ~~and noncommercial applicator licenses for~~  
 46.15 ~~administering and enforcing this chapter,~~ and private applicator certification consistent  
 46.16 with federal requirements in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, sections 171.101 and  
 46.17 171.105, including but not limited to the federal categories that are applicable to the state.  
 46.18 Application categories must meet or exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal  
 46.19 Regulations, title 40, part 171. Competency standards for application categories must be  
 46.20 published on the Department of Agriculture website. The categories may include pest control  
 46.21 operators and ornamental, agricultural, aquatic, forest, and right-of-way pesticide applicators.  
 46.22 Separate subclassifications of categories may be specified as to ground, aerial, or manual  
 46.23 methods to apply pesticides or to the use of pesticides to control insects, plant diseases,  
 46.24 rodents, or weeds.

46.25 (b) Each category is subject to separate testing procedures and requirements.

46.26 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.36, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

46.27 Subdivision 1. **Requirement.** (a) Except for a licensed commercial or noncommercial  
 46.28 applicator, only a certified private applicator may use a restricted use pesticide to produce  
 46.29 an agricultural commodity:

46.30 (1) as a traditional exchange of services without financial compensation;

46.31 (2) on a site owned, rented, or managed by the person or the person's employees; or

47.1 (3) when the private applicator is one of two or fewer employees and the owner or  
 47.2 operator is a certified private applicator or is licensed as a noncommercial applicator.

47.3 (b) A person may not purchase a restricted use pesticide without presenting a license  
 47.4 card, certified private applicator card, or the card number.

47.5 (c) A person certified under this section is considered qualified and is not required to  
 47.6 verify, document, or otherwise prove a particular need prior to use, except as required by  
 47.7 the federal label.

47.8 (d) A person certified under this section must be 18 years of age or older.

47.9 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.36, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

47.10 Subd. 2. **Certification.** (a) The commissioner shall prescribe certification requirements  
 47.11 and provide training that meets or exceeds United States Environmental Protection Agency  
 47.12 standards to certify private applicators and provide information relating to changing  
 47.13 technology to help ensure a continuing level of competency and ability to use pesticides  
 47.14 properly and safely. Private applicator certification requirements and training must meet or  
 47.15 exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171.  
 47.16 Competency standards for private applicator certification and training must be published  
 47.17 on the Department of Agriculture website. The training may be done through cooperation  
 47.18 with other government agencies and must be a minimum of three hours in duration.

47.19 (b) A person must apply to the commissioner for certification as a private applicator.  
 47.20 After completing the certification requirements, which must include ~~an~~ a proctored  
 47.21 examination as determined by the commissioner, an applicant must be certified as a private  
 47.22 applicator to use restricted use pesticides. The certification shall expire March 1 of the third  
 47.23 calendar year after the initial year of certification.

47.24 (c) The commissioner shall issue a private applicator card to a private applicator.

47.25 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.37, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

47.26 Subd. 2. **Commercial and noncommercial applicators.** (a) A commercial or  
 47.27 noncommercial applicator; or the applicator's authorized agent; must maintain a record of  
 47.28 pesticides used on each site. Noncommercial applicators must keep records of restricted  
 47.29 use pesticides. The record must include the:

47.30 (1) date of the pesticide use;

47.31 (2) time the pesticide application was completed;

48.1 (3) brand name of the pesticide, the United States Environmental Protection Agency  
48.2 registration number, and rate used;

48.3 (4) number of units treated;

48.4 (5) temperature, wind speed, and wind direction;

48.5 (6) location of the site where the pesticide was applied;

48.6 (7) name and address of the customer;

48.7 (8) name of applicator, name of company, license number of applicator, and address of  
48.8 applicator company; and

48.9 (9) any other information required by the commissioner.

48.10 (b) Portions of records not relevant to a specific type of application may be omitted upon  
48.11 approval from the commissioner.

48.12 (c) All information for this record requirement must be contained in a document for each  
48.13 pesticide application, except a map may be attached to identify treated areas. An invoice  
48.14 containing the required information may constitute the required record. The commissioner  
48.15 shall make sample forms available to meet the requirements of this paragraph.

48.16 (d) The record must be completed no later than five days after the application of the  
48.17 pesticide.

48.18 (e) A commercial applicator must give a copy of the record to the customer.

48.19 (f) Records must be retained by the applicator, company, or authorized agent for five  
48.20 years after the date of treatment.

48.21 (g) A record of a commercial or noncommercial applicator must meet or exceed the  
48.22 requirements in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171.

48.23 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.37, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

48.24 Subd. 3. **Structural pest control applicators.** (a) A structural pest control applicator  
48.25 must maintain a record of each structural pest control application conducted by that person  
48.26 or by the person's employees. The record must include the:

48.27 (1) date of structural pest control application;

48.28 (2) target pest;

48.29 (3) brand name of the pesticide, United States Environmental Protection Agency  
48.30 registration number, and amount used;



- 49.1 (4) for fumigation, the temperature and exposure time;
- 49.2 (5) time the pesticide application was completed;
- 49.3 (6) name and address of the customer;
- 49.4 (7) name of structural pest control applicator, name of company and address of applicator
- 49.5 or company, and license number of applicator; and
- 49.6 (8) any other information required by the commissioner.

49.7 (b) All information for this record requirement must be contained in a document for

49.8 each pesticide application. An invoice containing the required information may constitute

49.9 the record.

49.10 (c) The record must be completed no later than five days after the application of the

49.11 pesticide.

49.12 (d) Records must be retained for five years after the date of treatment.

49.13 (e) A copy of the record must be given to a person who ordered the application that is

49.14 present at the site where the structural pest control application is conducted, placed in a

49.15 conspicuous location at the site where the structural pest control application is conducted

49.16 immediately after the application of the pesticides, or delivered to the person who ordered

49.17 an application or the owner of the site. The commissioner must make sample forms available

49.18 that meet the requirements of this subdivision.

49.19 (f) A structural applicator must post in a conspicuous place inside a renter's apartment

49.20 where a pesticide application has occurred a list of postapplication precautions contained

49.21 on the label of the pesticide that was applied in the apartment and any other information

49.22 required by the commissioner.

49.23 (g) A record of a structural applicator must meet or exceed the requirements in Code of

49.24 Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171.

49.25 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.005, is amended by adding a subdivision

49.26 to read:

49.27 Subd. 1c. **Beneficial substance.** "Beneficial substance" means any substance or

49.28 compound other than a primary, secondary, and micro plant nutrient, and excluding

49.29 pesticides, that can be demonstrated by scientific research to be beneficial to one or more

49.30 species of plants, soil, or media.

50.1 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.005, subdivision 33, is amended to read:

50.2 Subd. 33. **Soil amendment.** "Soil amendment" means a substance intended to improve  
50.3 the structural, physical, chemical, biochemical, or biological characteristics of the soil or  
50.4 modify organic matter at or near the soil surface, except fertilizers, agricultural liming  
50.5 materials, pesticides, and other materials exempted by the commissioner's rules.

50.6 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.115, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

50.7 Subd. 2. **Adoption of national standards.** Applicable national standards contained in  
50.8 ~~the 1996 official publication, number 49,~~ most recently published version of the official  
50.9 publication of the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials including the rules  
50.10 and regulations, statements of uniform interpretation and policy, and the official fertilizer  
50.11 terms and definitions, and not otherwise adopted by the commissioner, may be adopted as  
50.12 fertilizer rules of this state.

50.13 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.215, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

50.14 Subdivision 1. **Packaged fertilizers.** (a) A person may not sell or distribute specialty  
50.15 fertilizer in bags or other containers in this state unless a label is placed on or affixed to the  
50.16 bag or container stating in a clear, legible, and conspicuous form the following information:

50.17 (1) the net weight and volume, if applicable;

50.18 (2) the brand and grade, except the grade is not required if primary nutrients are not  
50.19 claimed;

50.20 (3) the guaranteed analysis;

50.21 (4) the name and address of the guarantor;

50.22 (5) directions for use, except directions for use are not required for custom blend specialty  
50.23 fertilizers; and

50.24 (6) a derivatives statement.

50.25 (b) A person may not sell or distribute fertilizer for agricultural purposes in bags or other  
50.26 containers in this state unless a label is placed on or affixed to the bag or container stating  
50.27 in a clear, legible, and conspicuous form the information listed in paragraph (a), clauses (1)  
50.28 to (4), except:

50.29 (1) the grade is not required if primary nutrients are not claimed; and

51.1 (2) the grade on the label is optional if the fertilizer is used only for agricultural purposes  
51.2 and the guaranteed analysis statement is shown in the complete form as in section 18C.211.

51.3 (c) The labeled information must appear:

51.4 (1) on the front or back side of the container;

51.5 (2) on the upper one-third of the side of the container;

51.6 (3) on the upper end of the container; or

51.7 (4) printed on a tag affixed to the upper end of the container.

51.8 (d) If a person sells a custom blend specialty fertilizer in bags or other containers, the  
51.9 information required in paragraph (a) must either be affixed to the bag or container as  
51.10 required in paragraph (c) or be furnished to the customer on an invoice or delivery ticket  
51.11 in written or printed form.

51.12 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.221, is amended to read:

51.13 **18C.221 FERTILIZER PLANT FOOD CONTENT.**

51.14 (a) Products that are deficient in plant food content are subject to this subdivision.

51.15 (b) An analysis must show that a fertilizer is deficient:

51.16 (1) in one or more of its guaranteed primary plant nutrients beyond the investigational  
51.17 allowances and compensations as established by regulation; or

51.18 (2) if the overall index value of the fertilizer is shown below the level established by  
51.19 rule.

51.20 (c) A deficiency in an official sample of mixed fertilizer resulting from nonuniformity  
51.21 is not distinguishable from a deficiency due to actual plant nutrient shortage and is properly  
51.22 subject to official action.

51.23 (d) For the purpose of determining the commercial index value to be applied, the  
51.24 commissioner shall determine at least annually the values per unit of nitrogen, available  
51.25 ~~phosphoric acid phosphate~~ phosphate, and soluble potash in fertilizers in this state.

51.26 (e) If a fertilizer in the possession of the consumer is found by the commissioner to be  
51.27 short in weight, the registrant or licensee of the fertilizer must submit a penalty payment of  
51.28 two times the value of the actual shortage to the consumer within 30 days after official  
51.29 notice from the commissioner.

52.1 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 18C.425, subdivision 6, is amended  
52.2 to read:

52.3 Subd. 6. **Payment of inspection fee.** (a) The person who registers and distributes in the  
52.4 state a specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment under section 18C.411 shall  
52.5 pay the inspection fee to the commissioner.

52.6 (b) The person licensed under section 18C.415 who distributes a fertilizer to a person  
52.7 not required to be so licensed shall pay the inspection fee to the commissioner, except as  
52.8 exempted under section 18C.421, subdivision 1, paragraph (b).

52.9 (c) The person responsible for payment of the inspection fees for fertilizers, soil  
52.10 amendments, or plant amendments sold and used in this state must pay the inspection fee  
52.11 set under paragraph (e), and until June 30, ~~2024~~ 2029, an additional 40 cents per ton, of  
52.12 fertilizer, soil amendment, and plant amendment sold or distributed in this state, with a  
52.13 minimum of \$10 on all tonnage reports. Notwithstanding section 18C.131, the commissioner  
52.14 must deposit all revenue from the additional 40 cents per ton fee in the agricultural fertilizer  
52.15 research and education account in section 18C.80. Products sold or distributed to  
52.16 manufacturers or exchanged between them are exempt from the inspection fee imposed by  
52.17 this subdivision if the products are used exclusively for manufacturing purposes.

52.18 (d) A registrant or licensee must retain invoices showing proof of fertilizer, plant  
52.19 amendment, or soil amendment distribution amounts and inspection fees paid for a period  
52.20 of three years.

52.21 (e) By commissioner's order, the commissioner must set the inspection fee at no less  
52.22 than 39 cents per ton and no more than 70 cents per ton. The commissioner must hold a  
52.23 public meeting before increasing the fee by more than five cents per ton.

52.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

52.25 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.70, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

52.26 Subdivision 1. **Establishment; membership.** (a) The Minnesota Agricultural Fertilizer  
52.27 Research and Education Council is established. The council is composed of ~~12~~ 15 voting  
52.28 members as follows:

52.29 (1) ~~two members~~ one member of the Minnesota Crop Production Retailers;

52.30 (2) one member of the Minnesota Corn Growers Association;

52.31 (3) one member of the Minnesota Soybean Growers Association;

52.32 (4) one member of the sugar beet growers industry;

- 53.1 (5) one member of the Minnesota Association of Wheat Growers;
- 53.2 (6) one member of the potato growers industry;
- 53.3 (7) one member of the Minnesota Farm Bureau;
- 53.4 (8) one member of the Minnesota Farmers Union;
- 53.5 (9) one member from the Minnesota Irrigators Association;
- 53.6 (10) one member of the Minnesota Grain and Feed Association; ~~and~~
- 53.7 (11) one member of the Minnesota Independent Crop Consultant Association or the
- 53.8 Minnesota certified crop advisor program;
- 53.9 (12) one member representing the Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture;
- 53.10 (13) one member of the Minnesota Soil Health Coalition;
- 53.11 (14) one member who is an expert in public health; and
- 53.12 (15) one member who is an expert in water quality and has performed scientific research
- 53.13 on water issues.

53.14 (b) Council members shall serve three-year terms. After the initial council is appointed,

53.15 subsequent appointments must be staggered so that one-third of council membership is

53.16 replaced each year. Council members must be ~~nominated by their organizations and~~ appointed

53.17 by the commissioner and, except for the members specified under paragraph (a), clauses

53.18 (14) and (15), nominated by their organizations. The council may add ex officio members

53.19 at its discretion. The council must meet at least once per year, with all related expenses

53.20 reimbursed by members' sponsoring organizations or by the members themselves.

53.21 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.70, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

53.22 Subd. 5. **Expiration.** This section expires June 30, ~~2025~~ 2030.

53.23 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.71, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

53.24 Subdivision 1. **Eligible projects.** Eligible project activities include research, education,

53.25 and technology transfer related to the production and application of fertilizer, soil

53.26 amendments, and other plant amendments, regenerative agriculture, and the protection of

53.27 clean water. Chosen projects must contain a component of outreach that achieves a timely

53.28 dissemination of findings and their applicability to the production agricultural community

53.29 or metropolitan fertilizer users.

54.1 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.71, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
54.2 read:

54.3 Subd. 1a. **Priorities and guidance.** The council must develop or update research priorities  
54.4 and request guidance related to:

54.5 (1) the availability of nitrogen by manure type and livestock species based on  
54.6 management; and

54.7 (2) manure management and fertilizer best management practices for areas where surface  
54.8 water or groundwater are vulnerable to nitrate losses, including the adjustment of practices  
54.9 based on vulnerability such as coarse textured soils, soils with shallow bedrock, and karst  
54.10 geology.

54.11 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.71, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

54.12 Subd. 2. **Awarding grants.** Applications for program grants must be submitted in the  
54.13 form prescribed by the Minnesota Agricultural Fertilizer Research and Education Council.  
54.14 Applications must be submitted on or before the deadline prescribed by the council. All  
54.15 applications are subject to a thorough in-state review by a peer committee established and  
54.16 approved by the council. Each project meeting the basic qualifications is subject to a yes  
54.17 or no vote by each council member. Projects chosen to receive funding must achieve an  
54.18 affirmative vote from at least ~~eight~~ ten of the ~~12~~ 15 council members or two-thirds of voting  
54.19 members present. Projects awarded program funds must submit an annual progress report  
54.20 in the form prescribed by the council.

54.21 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.71, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

54.22 Subd. 4. **Expiration.** This section expires June 30, ~~2025~~ 2030.

54.23 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.80, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

54.24 Subd. 2. **Expiration.** This section expires June 30, ~~2025~~ 2030.

54.25 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18D.301, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

54.26 Subdivision 1. **Enforcement required.** (a) The commissioner shall enforce this chapter  
54.27 and chapters 18B, 18C, and 18F.

54.28 (b) Violations of chapter 18B, 18C, or 18F or rules adopted under chapter 18B, 18C, or  
54.29 18F, or section 103H.275, subdivision 2, are a violation of this chapter.

55.1 (c) Upon the request of the commissioner, county attorneys, sheriffs, and other officers  
 55.2 having authority in the enforcement of the general criminal laws shall take action to the  
 55.3 extent of their authority necessary or proper for the enforcement of this chapter or special  
 55.4 orders, standards, stipulations, and agreements of the commissioner.

55.5 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 18K.06, is amended to read:

55.6 **18K.06 RULEMAKING.**

55.7 (a) The commissioner ~~shall adopt rules governing the production, testing, processing,~~  
 55.8 ~~and licensing of industrial hemp. Notwithstanding the two-year limitation for exempt rules~~  
 55.9 ~~under section 14.388, subdivision 1, Minnesota Rules, chapter 1565, published in the State~~  
 55.10 ~~Register on August 16, 2021, is effective until August 16, 2025, or until permanent rules~~  
 55.11 ~~implementing chapter 18K are adopted, whichever occurs first~~ may adopt or amend rules  
 55.12 governing the production, testing, processing, and licensing of industrial hemp using the  
 55.13 procedure in section 14.386, paragraph (a). Section 14.386, paragraph (b), does not apply  
 55.14 to rules adopted or amended under this section.

55.15 (b) Rules adopted under paragraph (a) must include but not be limited to provisions  
 55.16 governing:

55.17 (1) the supervision and inspection of industrial hemp during its growth and harvest;

55.18 (2) the testing of industrial hemp to determine delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol levels;

55.19 (3) the use of background check results required under section 18K.04 to approve or  
 55.20 deny a license application; and

55.21 (4) any other provision or procedure necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

55.22 (c) Rules issued under this section must be consistent with federal law regarding the  
 55.23 production, distribution, and sale of industrial hemp.

55.24 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.10, is amended to read:

55.25 **28A.10 POSTING OF LICENSE; RULES.**

55.26 All such licenses shall be issued for a period of one year and shall be posted or displayed  
 55.27 in a conspicuous place at the place of business so licensed. ~~Except as provided in sections~~  
 55.28 ~~29.22, subdivision 4 and 31.39, all such license fees and penalties collected by the~~  
 55.29 ~~commissioner shall be deposited into the state treasury and credited to the general fund.~~

55.30 The commissioner may adopt such rules in conformity with law as the commissioner deems  
 55.31 necessary to effectively and efficiently carry out the provisions of sections 28A.01 to 28A.16.

56.1 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.151, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

56.2 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have  
56.3 the meanings given them.

56.4 (b) "Farmers' market" means an association of three or more persons who assemble at  
56.5 a defined location that is open to the public for the purpose of selling ~~directly to the consumer~~  
56.6 ~~the~~ products of a farm or garden occupied and cultivated by the person selling the product.

56.7 (c) "Food product sampling" means distributing to individuals at a farmers' market or  
56.8 community event, for promotional or educational purposes, small portions of a food item  
56.9 that include as a main ingredient a product sold by the vendor ~~at the farmers' market or~~  
56.10 ~~community event~~. For purposes of this subdivision, "small portion" means a portion that is  
56.11 no more than three ounces of food or beverage.

56.12 (d) "Food product demonstration" means cooking or preparing food products to distribute  
56.13 to individuals at a farmers' market or community event for promotional or educational  
56.14 purposes.

56.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

56.16 Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.151, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

56.17 Subd. 2. **Food sampling and demonstration.** (a) Food used in sampling and  
56.18 demonstration must be obtained from sources that comply with Minnesota Food Law.

56.19 (b) Raw animal, raw poultry, and raw fish products must not be served as samples.

56.20 (c) Food product sampling or food product demonstrations, including cooked animal,  
56.21 poultry, or fish products, must be prepared on site at the event.

56.22 (d) Animal or poultry products used for food product sampling or food product  
56.23 demonstrations must be from animals slaughtered under continuous inspection, either by  
56.24 the USDA or through Minnesota's "Equal-to" inspection program.

56.25 (e) The licensing provisions of sections 28A.01 to 28A.16 shall not apply to persons  
56.26 engaged in food product sampling or food product demonstrations.

56.27 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.



57.1 Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.151, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

57.2 Subd. 3. **Food required to be provided at no cost.** Food provided through food product  
57.3 sampling or food product demonstrations must be provided at no cost to the individual  
57.4 recipient of a sample.

57.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

57.6 Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.151, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

57.7 Subd. 5. **Food safety and equipment standards.** (a) Any person conducting food  
57.8 product sampling or food product demonstrations shall meet the same food safety and  
57.9 equipment standards that are required of a special event food stand in Minnesota Rules,  
57.10 parts 4626.1855, items B to O, Q, and R; and 4626.0330.

57.11 (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a handwashing device is not required when only  
57.12 prepackaged food samples are offered.

57.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

57.14 Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.151, is amended by adding a subdivision  
57.15 to read:

57.16 Subd. 7. **Signage.** A food product provided through food product sampling or food  
57.17 product demonstrations must be accompanied by a legible sign or placard that lists the  
57.18 product's ingredients and major food allergens.

57.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

57.20 Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.21, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

57.21 Subd. 6. **Expiration.** This section expires June 30, ~~2027~~ 2037.

57.22 Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 31.74, is amended to read:

57.23 **~~31.74 SALE OF IMITATION HONEY.~~**

57.24 Subdivision 1. **Honey defined.** As used in this section "honey" means the nectar and  
57.25 saccharine exudation of plants, gathered, modified and stored in the comb by honey bees,  
57.26 which is levorotatory, contains not more than 25 percent of water, not more than 25/100  
57.27 percent of ash, and not more than eight percent sucrose.

57.28 Subd. 2. **Prohibited sale.** Notwithstanding any law or rule to the contrary, it is unlawful  
57.29 for any person to sell or offer for sale any product which is in semblance of honey and which

58.1 is labeled, advertised, or otherwise represented to be honey, if it is not honey. The word  
 58.2 "imitation" shall not be used in the name of a product which is in semblance of honey  
 58.3 whether or not it contains any honey. The label for a product which is not in semblance of  
 58.4 honey and which contains honey may include the word "honey" in the name of the product  
 58.5 and the relative position of the word "honey" in the product name, and in the list of  
 58.6 ingredients, when required, shall be determined by its prominence as an ingredient in the  
 58.7 product.

58.8 Subd. 4. Food consisting of honey and another sweetener. Consistent with the federal  
 58.9 act, the federal regulations incorporated under section 31.101, subdivision 7, and the  
 58.10 prohibition against misbranding in sections 31.02 and 34A.03, the label for a food in  
 58.11 semblance of honey and consisting of honey and another sweetener must include but is not  
 58.12 limited to the following elements:

58.13 (1) a statement of identity that accurately identifies or describes the nature of the food  
 58.14 or its characterizing properties or ingredients; and

58.15 (2) the common or usual name of each ingredient in the ingredient statement, in  
 58.16 descending order of predominance by weight.

58.17 Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 31.94, is amended to read:

58.18 **31.94 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE; COMMISSIONER DUTIES.**

58.19 (a) In order to promote opportunities for organic agriculture in Minnesota, the  
 58.20 commissioner shall:

58.21 (1) survey producers and support services and organizations to determine information  
 58.22 and research needs in the area of organic agriculture practices;

58.23 (2) work with the University of Minnesota and other research and education institutions  
 58.24 to demonstrate the on-farm applicability of organic agriculture practices to conditions in  
 58.25 this state;

58.26 (3) direct the programs of the department so as to work toward the promotion of organic  
 58.27 agriculture in this state;

58.28 (4) inform agencies about state or federal programs that support organic agriculture  
 58.29 practices; and

58.30 (5) work closely with producers, producer organizations, the University of Minnesota,  
 58.31 and other appropriate agencies and organizations to identify opportunities and needs as well

59.1 as ensure coordination and avoid duplication of state agency efforts regarding research,  
59.2 teaching, marketing, and extension work relating to organic agriculture.

59.3 (b) By November 15 of each year that ends in a zero or a five, the commissioner, in  
59.4 conjunction with the task force created in paragraph (c), shall report on the status of organic  
59.5 agriculture in Minnesota to the legislative policy and finance committees and divisions with  
59.6 jurisdiction over agriculture. The report must include available data on organic acreage and  
59.7 production, available data on the sales or market performance of organic products, and  
59.8 recommendations regarding programs, policies, and research efforts that will benefit  
59.9 Minnesota's organic agriculture sector.

59.10 (c) A Minnesota Organic Advisory Task Force shall advise the commissioner and the  
59.11 University of Minnesota on policies and programs that will improve organic agriculture in  
59.12 Minnesota, including how available resources can most effectively be used for outreach,  
59.13 education, research, and technical assistance that meet the needs of the organic agriculture  
59.14 sector. The task force must consist of the following residents of the state:

59.15 (1) three organic farmers;

59.16 (2) one wholesaler or distributor of organic products;

59.17 (3) one representative of organic certification agencies;

59.18 (4) two organic processors;

59.19 (5) one representative from University of Minnesota Extension;

59.20 (6) one University of Minnesota faculty member;

59.21 (7) one representative from a nonprofit organization representing producers;

59.22 (8) two public members;

59.23 (9) one representative from the United States Department of Agriculture;

59.24 (10) one retailer of organic products; and

59.25 (11) one organic consumer representative.

59.26 The commissioner, in consultation with the director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment  
59.27 Station; the dean and director of University of Minnesota Extension and the dean of the  
59.28 College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, shall appoint members to  
59.29 serve three-year terms.

59.30 Compensation and removal of members are governed by section 15.059, subdivision 6.  
59.31 The task force must meet at least twice each year and expires on June 30, ~~2024~~ 2034.

60.1 (d) For the purposes of expanding, improving, and developing production and marketing  
 60.2 of the organic products of Minnesota agriculture, the commissioner may receive funds from  
 60.3 state and federal sources and spend them, including through grants or contracts, to assist  
 60.4 producers and processors to achieve certification, to conduct education or marketing  
 60.5 activities, to enter into research and development partnerships, or to address production or  
 60.6 marketing obstacles to the growth and well-being of the industry.

60.7 (e) The commissioner may facilitate the registration of state organic production and  
 60.8 handling operations including those exempt from organic certification according to Code  
 60.9 of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 205.101, and accredited certification agencies  
 60.10 operating within the state.

60.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

60.12 Sec. 55. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 32D.30, is amended to read:

60.13 **32D.30 DAIRY DEVELOPMENT AND PROFITABILITY ENHANCEMENT.**

60.14 Subdivision 1. **Program.** The commissioner must implement a dairy development and  
 60.15 profitability enhancement program consisting of a dairy profitability enhancement teams  
 60.16 and program, dairy business planning grants, and other services to support the dairy industry.

60.17 Subd. 2. **Dairy profitability enhancement teams program.** (a) The dairy profitability  
 60.18 enhancement teams program must provide ~~one-on-one~~ information and technical assistance  
 60.19 to dairy farms of all sizes to enhance their financial success and long-term sustainability.  
 60.20 ~~Teams~~ The program must assist dairy producers in all dairy-producing regions of the state  
 60.21 ~~and.~~ Assistance to producers from the program may consist of be provided individually, as  
 60.22 a team, or through other methods by farm business management instructors, dairy extension  
 60.23 specialists, and other dairy industry partners. ~~Teams~~ The program may engage in activities  
 60.24 ~~including such as~~ comprehensive financial analysis, risk management education, enhanced  
 60.25 milk marketing tools and technologies, ~~and~~ facilitating or improving production systems,  
 60.26 including rotational grazing and other sustainable agriculture methods, and value-added  
 60.27 opportunities.

60.28 (b) The commissioner must make grants to regional or statewide organizations qualified  
 60.29 to manage the various components of the teams program and serve as program administrators.  
 60.30 Each regional or statewide organization must designate a coordinator responsible for  
 60.31 overseeing the program and submitting periodic reports to the commissioner regarding  
 60.32 aggregate changes in producer financial stability, productivity, product quality, animal  
 60.33 health, environmental protection, and other performance measures attributable to the program.

61.1 The organizations must submit this information in a format that maintains the confidentiality  
61.2 of individual dairy producers.

61.3 Subd. 3. **Dairy business planning grants.** The commissioner may award dairy business  
61.4 planning grants of up to \$5,000 per producer or dairy processor to ~~develop comprehensive~~  
61.5 ~~business plans~~ use technical assistance services for evaluating operations, transitional  
61.6 changes, expansions, improvements, and other business modifications. Producers and  
61.7 processors must not use dairy business planning grants for capital improvements.

61.8 Subd. 4. **Funding allocation.** Except as specified in law, the commissioner may allocate  
61.9 dairy development and profitability enhancement program dollars ~~among~~ for the permissible  
61.10 uses specified in this section and other needs to support the dairy industry, including efforts  
61.11 to improve the quality of milk produced in the state, in the proportions that the commissioner  
61.12 deems most beneficial to the state's dairy farmers.

61.13 Subd. 5. **Reporting.** No later than July 1 each year, the commissioner must submit a  
61.14 detailed accomplishment report and work plan detailing future plans for, and the actual and  
61.15 anticipated accomplishments from, expenditures under this section to the chairs and ranking  
61.16 minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over  
61.17 agriculture policy and finance. If the commissioner significantly modifies a submitted work  
61.18 plan during the fiscal year, the commissioner must notify the chairs and ranking minority  
61.19 members.

61.20 Sec. 56. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41B.039, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

61.21 Subd. 2. **State participation.** The state may participate in a new real estate loan with  
61.22 an eligible lender to a beginning farmer to the extent of 45 percent of the principal amount  
61.23 of the loan or ~~\$400,000~~ \$500,000, whichever is less. The interest rates and repayment terms  
61.24 of the authority's participation interest may be different than the interest rates and repayment  
61.25 terms of the lender's retained portion of the loan.

61.26 Sec. 57. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41B.04, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

61.27 Subd. 8. **State participation.** With respect to loans that are eligible for restructuring  
61.28 under sections 41B.01 to 41B.23 and upon acceptance by the authority, the authority shall  
61.29 enter into a participation agreement or other financial arrangement whereby it shall participate  
61.30 in a restructured loan to the extent of 45 percent of the primary principal or ~~\$525,000~~  
61.31 \$625,000, whichever is less. The authority's portion of the loan must be protected during  
61.32 the authority's participation by the first mortgage held by the eligible lender to the extent  
61.33 of its participation in the loan.

62.1 Sec. 58. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41B.042, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

62.2 Subd. 4. **Participation limit; interest.** The authority may participate in new  
62.3 seller-sponsored loans to the extent of 45 percent of the principal amount of the loan or  
62.4 ~~\$400,000~~ \$500,000, whichever is less. The interest rates and repayment terms of the  
62.5 authority's participation interest may be different than the interest rates and repayment terms  
62.6 of the seller's retained portion of the loan.

62.7 Sec. 59. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41B.043, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

62.8 Subd. 1b. **Loan participation.** The authority may participate in an agricultural  
62.9 improvement loan with an eligible lender to a farmer who meets the requirements of section  
62.10 41B.03, subdivision 1, clauses (1) and (2), and who is actively engaged in farming.  
62.11 Participation is limited to 45 percent of the principal amount of the loan or ~~\$400,000~~  
62.12 \$500,000, whichever is less. The interest rates and repayment terms of the authority's  
62.13 participation interest may be different than the interest rates and repayment terms of the  
62.14 lender's retained portion of the loan.

62.15 Sec. 60. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41B.045, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

62.16 Subd. 2. **Loan participation.** The authority may participate in a livestock expansion  
62.17 and modernization loan with an eligible lender to a livestock farmer who meets the  
62.18 requirements of section 41B.03, subdivision 1, clauses (1) and (2), and who are actively  
62.19 engaged in a livestock operation. A prospective borrower must have a total net worth,  
62.20 including assets and liabilities of the borrower's spouse and dependents, of less than  
62.21 \$1,700,000 in 2017 and an amount in subsequent years which is adjusted for inflation by  
62.22 multiplying that amount by the cumulative inflation rate as determined by the United States  
62.23 All-Items Consumer Price Index.

62.24 Participation is limited to 45 percent of the principal amount of the loan or ~~\$525,000~~  
62.25 \$625,000, whichever is less. The interest rates and repayment terms of the authority's  
62.26 participation interest may be different from the interest rates and repayment terms of the  
62.27 lender's retained portion of the loan.

62.28 Sec. 61. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41B.047, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

62.29 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The authority shall establish and implement a disaster  
62.30 recovery loan program to help farmers:

62.31 (1) clean up, repair, or replace farm structures and septic and water systems, as well as  
62.32 replace seed, other crop inputs, feed, and livestock;

63.1 (2) purchase watering systems, irrigation systems, ~~and~~ other drought mitigation systems  
63.2 and practices, and feed when drought is the cause of the purchase;

63.3 (3) restore farmland;

63.4 (4) replace flocks or livestock, make building improvements, or cover the loss of revenue  
63.5 when the replacement, improvements, or loss of revenue is due to the confirmed presence  
63.6 of a highly contagious animal disease in a commercial poultry or game flock, or a commercial  
63.7 livestock operation, located in Minnesota; or

63.8 (5) cover the loss of revenue when the revenue loss is due to an infectious human disease  
63.9 for which the governor has declared a peacetime emergency under section 12.31.

63.10 Sec. 62. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 232.21, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

63.11 Subd. 3. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of agriculture or the  
63.12 commissioner's designee.

63.13 Sec. 63. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 232.21, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

63.14 Subd. 7. **Grain.** "Grain" means any ~~cereal grain, coarse grain, or oilseed in unprocessed~~  
63.15 ~~form for which a standard has been established by the United States Secretary of Agriculture,~~  
63.16 ~~dry edible beans, or agricultural crops designated by the commissioner by rule~~ product  
63.17 commonly referred to as grain, including wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, rice, soybeans,  
63.18 emmer, sorghum, triticale, millet, pulses, dry edible beans, sunflower seed, rapeseed, canola,  
63.19 safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crambe, sesame seed, and other products ordinarily stored  
63.20 in grain warehouses.

63.21 Sec. 64. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 232.21, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

63.22 Subd. 11. **Producer.** "Producer" means a person who ~~owns or manages a grain producing~~  
63.23 ~~or growing operation and holds or shares the responsibility for marketing that grain produced~~  
63.24 grows grain on land owned or leased by the person.

63.25 Sec. 65. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 232.21, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

63.26 Subd. 12. **Public grain warehouse operator.** "Public grain warehouse operator" means:  
63.27 (1) a person licensed to operate operating a grain warehouse in which grain belonging to  
63.28 persons other than the grain warehouse operator is accepted for storage or purchase, ~~or;~~ (2)  
63.29 a person who offers grain storage or grain warehouse facilities to the public for hire; or (3)  
63.30 a feed-processing plant that receives and stores grain, the equivalent of which, it processes

64.1 and returns to the grain's owner in amounts, at intervals, and with added ingredients that  
64.2 are mutually agreeable to the grain's owner and the person operating the plant.

64.3 Sec. 66. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 232.21, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

64.4 Subd. 13. **Scale ticket.** "Scale ticket" means a memorandum showing the weight, ~~grade~~  
64.5 and kind of grain which is issued by a grain elevator or warehouse operator to a depositor  
64.6 at the time the grain is delivered.

64.7 Sec. 67. **[346.021] FINDER TO GIVE NOTICE.**

64.8 A person who finds an estray and knows who owns the estray must notify the estray's  
64.9 owner within seven days after finding the estray and request that the owner pay all reasonable  
64.10 charges and take the estray away. A finder who does not know who owns an estray must  
64.11 either:

64.12 (1) within ten days, file a notice with the town or city clerk and post a physical or online  
64.13 notice of the finding of the estray. The notice must briefly describe the estray or provide a  
64.14 photograph of the estray, provide the residence or contact information of the finder, and  
64.15 provide the approximate location and time when the finder found the estray; or

64.16 (2) within seven days, surrender the estray to a local animal control agency or to a kennel  
64.17 as defined in section 347.31, subdivision 2.

64.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

64.19 Sec. 68. Laws 2023, chapter 43, article 2, section 142, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

64.20 Subd. 9. **Dairy law.** Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 17.984; 32D.03, subdivision 5;  
64.21 32D.24; 32D.25, subdivision 1; 32D.26; 32D.27; and 32D.28, are repealed.

64.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

64.23 Sec. 69. **REVIVAL AND REENACTMENT.**

64.24 Minnesota Statutes, section 32D.25, subdivision 2, is revived and reenacted effective  
64.25 retroactively from July 1, 2023.

64.26 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

64.27 Sec. 70. **REPORT REQUIRED; COOPERATIVE FINANCIAL REPORTING.**

64.28 The commissioner of agriculture shall convene a cooperative financial reporting  
64.29 workgroup, which must include producers who sell to a cooperative and representatives



65.1 from cooperative management. The commissioner shall develop recommendations relating  
 65.2 to requirements for cooperatives to report on financial conditions and report back with  
 65.3 recommendations to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture by January  
 65.4 3, 2025. Participating stakeholders must be given an opportunity to include written testimony  
 65.5 to the legislative committees in the commissioner's report.

65.6 **Sec. 71. COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR LICENSE EXAMINATION LANGUAGE**  
 65.7 **REQUIREMENTS.**

65.8 By January 1, 2025, the commissioner of agriculture must ensure that examinations for  
 65.9 a commercial applicator license under Minnesota Statutes, section 18B.33, are available in  
 65.10 Spanish and that applicants are informed that the examinations can be taken in Spanish.  
 65.11 The commissioner must use money appropriated from the pesticide regulatory account  
 65.12 under Minnesota Statutes, section 18B.05, for this purpose.

65.13 **Sec. 72. CREDIT MARKET REPORT REQUIRED.**

65.14 The commissioner of agriculture must convene a stakeholder working group to explore  
 65.15 the state establishing a market for carbon credits, ecosystem services credits, or other credits  
 65.16 generated by farmers who implement clean water, climate-smart, and soil-healthy farming  
 65.17 practices. To the extent practicable, the stakeholder working group must include but is not  
 65.18 limited to farmers; representatives of agricultural organizations; experts in geoscience,  
 65.19 carbon storage, greenhouse gas modeling, and agricultural economics; industry  
 65.20 representatives with experience in carbon markets and supply chain sustainability; and  
 65.21 representatives of environmental organizations with expertise in carbon sequestration and  
 65.22 agriculture. No later than February 1, 2025, the commissioner must report recommendations  
 65.23 to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture. The commissioner must  
 65.24 provide participating stakeholders an opportunity to include written testimony in the  
 65.25 commissioner's report.

65.26 **Sec. 73. REPEALER.**

65.27 (a) Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 3.7371, subdivision 7; and 34.07, are repealed.

65.28 (b) Minnesota Rules, parts 1506.0010; 1506.0015; 1506.0020; 1506.0025; 1506.0030;  
 65.29 1506.0035; and 1506.0040, are repealed.

66.1 **ARTICLE 3**

66.2 **BROADBAND**

66.3 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 116J.396, is amended by adding a subdivision  
66.4 to read:

66.5 Subd. 4. **Transfer.** The commissioner may transfer up to \$5,000,000 of a fiscal year  
66.6 appropriation between the border-to-border broadband program, low density population  
66.7 broadband program, and the broadband line extension program to meet demand. The  
66.8 commissioner must inform the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative  
66.9 committees with jurisdiction over broadband finance in writing when this transfer authority  
66.10 is used. The written notice must include how much money was transferred and why the  
66.11 transfer was made. The written notice must also be filed with the Legislative Reference  
66.12 Library in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 3.195.

66.13 Sec. 2. **BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT; APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL**  
66.14 **FUNDING; APPROPRIATION.**

66.15 (a) The commissioner of employment and economic development must prepare and  
66.16 submit an application to the United States Department of Commerce requesting State Digital  
66.17 Equity Capacity Grant funding made available under Public Law 117-58, the Infrastructure  
66.18 Investment and Jobs Act.

66.19 (b) The amount awarded to Minnesota pursuant to the application submitted under  
66.20 paragraph (a) is appropriated to the commissioner of employment and economic development  
66.21 for purposes of the commissioner's Minnesota Digital Opportunity Plan."

66.22 Delete the title and insert:

66.23 "A bill for an act  
66.24 relating to state government; amending agriculture policy provisions; establishing  
66.25 and modifying agriculture programs; providing broadband appropriation transfer  
66.26 authority; requiring an application for federal broadband aid; establishing a  
66.27 supplemental budget for energy, transmission, and renewable energy purposes;  
66.28 adding and modifying provisions governing geothermal energy, electric  
66.29 transmission, solar energy, and other energy policy; making technical changes;  
66.30 requiring reports; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections  
66.31 3.7371, subdivisions 2, 3, by adding subdivisions; 17.116, subdivision 2; 17.133,  
66.32 subdivision 1; 18B.01, by adding a subdivision; 18B.26, subdivision 6; 18B.28,  
66.33 by adding a subdivision; 18B.305, subdivision 2; 18B.32, subdivisions 1, 3, 4, 5;  
66.34 18B.33, subdivisions 1, 5, 6; 18B.34, subdivisions 1, 4; 18B.35, subdivision 1;  
66.35 18B.36, subdivisions 1, 2; 18B.37, subdivisions 2, 3; 18C.005, subdivision 33, by  
66.36 adding a subdivision; 18C.115, subdivision 2; 18C.215, subdivision 1; 18C.221;  
66.37 18C.70, subdivisions 1, 5; 18C.71, subdivisions 1, 2, 4, by adding a subdivision;  
66.38 18C.80, subdivision 2; 18D.301, subdivision 1; 28A.10; 28A.151, subdivisions 1,  
66.39 2, 3, 5, by adding a subdivision; 28A.21, subdivision 6; 31.74; 31.94; 32D.30;  
66.40 41B.039, subdivision 2; 41B.04, subdivision 8; 41B.042, subdivision 4; 41B.043,

67.1 subdivision 1b; 41B.045, subdivision 2; 41B.047, subdivision 1; 116J.396, by  
67.2 adding a subdivision; 232.21, subdivisions 3, 7, 11, 12, 13; Minnesota Statutes  
67.3 2023 Supplement, sections 17.055, subdivision 3; 17.133, subdivision 3; 17.134,  
67.4 subdivision 3, by adding a subdivision; 17.710; 18C.425, subdivision 6; 18K.06;  
67.5 Laws 2023, chapter 43, article 1, sections 2; 4; article 2, section 142, subdivision  
67.6 9; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 346; repealing  
67.7 Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 3.7371, subdivision 7; 34.07; Minnesota Rules,  
67.8 parts 1506.0010; 1506.0015; 1506.0020; 1506.0025; 1506.0030; 1506.0035;  
67.9 1506.0040."