



H.F. No. 2446 – Agriculture Omnibus (1st Unofficial Engrossment)

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Date: May 1, 2025

H.F. 2446 (1st Unofficial Engrossment) is the agriculture, broadband, and rural development omnibus bill.

Article 1

Article 1 contains the budget for the Department of Agriculture, Board of Animal Health, Agricultural Utilization Research Institute, and other appropriations.

Article 2

Article 2 contains the budget for the Office of Broadband Development. See “H.F. 2446 – 1st Unofficial Engrossment (formerly S.F. 2458) – Detailed Spreadsheet (as passed Senate floor)” for more information.

Article 3

Article 3 contains agriculture policy provisions.

Section 1 (17.1017) changes the name of the good food access program to the food retail improvement and development program, modifies the definitions of economic or community development financial institution and underserved community, specifies that projects must serve underserved communities, modifies the report to the legislature, and makes conforming changes.

Section 2 (17.1018) makes conforming and technical changes related to the advisory committee for the food retail improvement and development program.

Section 3 (17.117, subdivision 1) modifies the purpose of the agriculture best management practices loan program to support landowners.

Section 4 (17.117, subdivision 3) raises the maximum statutory amount the Public Facilities Authority can appropriate from the clean water revolving fund for the agriculture best management practices loan program from \$140,000,000 to \$280,000,000.

Section 5 (17.118, subdivision 1) modifies the allowable amount for a grant award in the livestock investment grant program to equal 25 percent of the first \$200,000 of qualifying expenditures.

Section 6 (17.118, subdivision 2) amends the definition of livestock for the purposes of the livestock investment grant program to include more species of animals, including aquaculture.

Section 7 (17.118, subdivision 3) amends eligibility for livestock investment grants to include tribal governments.

Section 8 (17.133, subdivision 1) clarifies language relating to family relationships in the definition of eligible farmer for the farm down payment assistance grant program.

Section 9 (18.79, subdivision 3) requires noxious weeds inspectors to contact landowners prior to entering their land and provide landowners with a copy of the inspection report.

Section 10 (18B.26, subdivision 8) amends the PFAS prohibitions so the subdivision no longer applies to cleaning products as defined in section 18B.01, subdivision 4d, and would instead apply to products listed in section 116.943, subdivision 5, paragraph (a).

Section 11 (18B.37, subdivision 6) includes physician assistants and nurse practitioners in addition to physicians to the subdivision allowing requests for information about pesticide applications that may have affected a patient under their care.

Section 12 (18C.111) adds a subdivision to the powers and duties of the commissioner section of the fertilizer, soil amendment, and plant amendment chapter that would allow the commissioner to coordinate public health protection from unreasonable adverse effects of fertilizers.

Section 13 (25.391, subdivision 1) amends the cottage foods exemption for home-processed pet treats to include sole proprietorships, single-member limited liability companies, and limited liability companies owned by two individuals residing at the same residence so long as the person does not hold a commercial feed license.

Section 14 (25.391, subdivision 2) makes a conforming change relating to the change in section 13.

Section 15 (32D.01) adds a new subdivision to the dairy law definitions to define the term milk marketer.

Section 16 (32D.31) adds a new section requiring a license for any milk marketer and specifying terms, fees, penalties, and license and permit requirements for licensees.

Section 17 (35.155, subdivision 12) allows the state veterinarian to issue a permit to certain zoos to import live Cervidae from another state if the Cervidae are part of a herd that is in the United States Department of Agriculture Herd Certification program or is subject to equivalent disease surveillance.

Section 18 (41A.09, subdivision 2a) modifies the ASTM specification for the definition of ethanol in the ethanol development section in the Agricultural Development chapter.

Section 19 (41A.16, subdivision 7) adds clarifying language in the biofuel production incentive section.

Section 20 (41A.30, subdivision 1) modifies the definition of sustainable aviation fuel for the tax credit to allow it to be derived from gaseous carbon oxides produced from biomass or direct air capture, or green electrolytic hydrogen in addition to biomass.

Section 21 (41B.039, subdivision 2) amends the beginning farmer loans to state that no loan may be less than \$50,000.

Section 22 (41B.0391, subdivision 1) amends the definition of beginning farmer in the beginning farmer tax credit program to include an individually owned limited liability company or a limited liability company owned by two individuals who are family members. The section also strikes the definition of emerging farmer and inserts a definition for a limited land access farmer.

Section 23 (section 41B.0391, subdivision 2) modifies the due dates for applications in the beginning farmer tax credit program and makes a conforming change related to limited land access farmers.

Section 24 (41B.0391, subdivision 4) modifies the dates for tax allocations in the beginning farmer tax credit program.

Section 25 (41B.0391, subdivision 6) makes conforming changes related to a report for the beginning farmer tax credit program.

Section 26 (41B.04, subdivision 8) amends the loan restructuring program to state that loans may not be less than \$50,000.

Section 27 (41B.042, subdivision 4) amends the seller-sponsored program to state that loans may not be less than \$50,000.

Section 28 (41B.043, subdivision 1b) amends the agricultural improvement loan program to state that loans may not be less than \$50,000.

Section 29 (41B.045, subdivision 2) amends the livestock expansion and modernization loan program to state that loans may not be less than \$50,000.

Section 30 (41B.047, subdivision 3) amends the eligibility for the disaster recovery loan program to require that a borrower's total net worth be less than \$5,000,000.

Section 31 (41B.056, subdivision 1) modifies the pilot agricultural microloan program so it is no longer a pilot program, and loans may be used for purchasing agricultural land.

Section 32 (41B.057, subdivision 1) modifies the farm opportunity loan program to reduce the purposes of the loans.

Section 33 (41B.057, subdivision 3) amends the eligibility for the farm opportunity loan program to require that a borrower's total net worth be less than \$1,700,000 and to allow that amount to be adjusted in line with inflation.

Section 34 (223.17, subdivision 3) modifies inspection fees for grain buyers.

Section 35 (232.22, subdivision 3) modifies grain storage fees.

Section 36 (239.761, subdivision 3) modifies the ASTM specification for petroleum products in the chapter on weights and measures.

Section 37 (239.761, subdivision 4) modifies the ASTM specification for gasoline blended with ethanol in the chapter on weights and measures for petroleum products.

Section 38 (239.761, subdivision 5) modifies the ASTM specification for denatured ethanol in the chapter on weights and measures for petroleum products.

Section 39 (239.761, subdivision 6) modifies the ASTM specification for gasoline blended with nonethanol oxygenate in the chapter on weights and measures for petroleum products.

Section 40 (296A.01, subdivision 20) modifies ASTM specification for denatured ethanol in the gasoline tax chapter.

Section 41 (296A.01, subdivision 23) modifies ASTM specification for gasoline in the gasoline tax chapter.

Section 42 (296A.01, subdivision 24) modifies the ASTM specification for gasoline blended with nonethanol oxygenate in the gasoline tax chapter.

Section 43 (343.256) inserts a new section prohibiting elective declawing of cats.

Section 44 allows the commissioner to award grants for the purchase and distribution of food to Minnesotans experiencing food insecurity.

Section 45 contains repealers. Paragraph (a) repeals a reporting requirement relating to the biodiesel content mandate that has been implemented, and paragraph (b) repeals two sections in the Board of Animal Health chapter relating to rabies proclamations and written bills of sale for branded livestock.

Section 46 states that except where stated otherwise, the article is effective August 1, 2025.

Article 4

Article 4 contains provisions relating to livestock market agency and dealer licensing.

Section 1 (17A.03, subdivision 8) modifies the definition of agent to be a livestock dealer agent.

Section 2 (17A.03, subdivision 10) modifies the definition of packing plants and slaughtering houses to be meat packing companies, packers, and slaughtering houses and to be consistent with the definition of packer in chapter 31B relating to packers and stockyards.

Section 3 (17A.03, subdivision 11) makes a conforming change to the definition of buying station.

Section 4 (17A.03) inserts a new definition for meat packing company agent.

Section 5 (17A.04) specifies that licenses for livestock dealers, livestock dealer agents, meat packing companies, and meat packing company agents are renewable annually and the section makes conforming changes.

Section 6 (17A.04, subdivision 2) makes a conforming change to the licensing statute.

Section 7 (17A.04, subdivision 4) deletes an obsolete reference.

Section 8 (17A.04, subdivision 6) allows the commissioner to refuse to renew a license in certain circumstances and makes a conforming change.

Section 9 (17A.04, subdivision 7) removes specific requirements for license revocation procedures, retaining that revocation occur in line with the Administrative Procedure Act.

Section 10 (17A.04, subdivision 8) removes the ability for a licensee to waive the ten days' notice requirement.

Section 11 (17A.06, subdivision 2) modifies requirements for bond claim hearings and deletes the provision that all parties may waive a hearing.

Section 12 (17A.06, subdivision 3) amends public notice procedures for bond claims and makes a conforming change.

Section 13 (17A.07) makes conforming changes.

Section 14 (17A.08) specifies that the commissioner may take enforcement action when records are not kept.

Section 15 (17A.15) deletes an obsolete reference.

Section 16 states that the article is effective August 1, 2025.

Article 5

Article 5 contains modifications to provisions relating to seed potatoes.

Section 1 (18J.01) updates the applicability of definitions in other chapters in chapter 18J relating to inspection and enforcement.

Section 2 (18J.02) updates the enforcement and inspection duties of the commissioner to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 3 (18J.03) updates the civil liability provisions to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 4 (18J.04, subdivision 1) updates access and entry permissions for the commissioner to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 5 (18J.04, subdivision 2) updates inspections and sampling permissions for the commissioner to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 6 (18J.04, subdivision 3) updates sample and inspection notice requirements for the commissioner to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 7 (18J.04, subdivision 4) updates inspection request language to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 8 (18J.05, subdivision 1) updates the enforcement section to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 9 (18J.05, subdivision 2) updates the commissioner's discretion to issue a warning for a minor violation to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 10 (18J.05, subdivision 6) updates the agent for service of legal process subdivision to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 11 (18J.06) updates the false statement or record section to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 12 (18J.07, subdivision 3) updates the cancellation of certification subdivision to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 13 (18J.07, subdivision 4) updates the service of order or notice subdivision to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 14 (18J.07, subdivision 5) updates the unsatisfied judgements subdivision to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 15 (18J.09) updates the crediting of penalties, fees, and costs section to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Section 16 (21.111) amends definitions for seed potatoes.

Section 17 (21.112) inserts a subdivision relating to interstate cooperation in the commissioner duties section. The language of the new subdivision matches that in the definition of interstate cooperation proposed to be deleted from section 21.111 and moves it to a more appropriate section of the statutes.

Section 18 (21.113) modifies certificate provisions for seed potatoes.

Section 19 (21.115) makes conforming changes to the seed potato inspection account section.

Section 20 (21.117) modifies inspection application withdrawals and adds an inspection application amendment provision relating to seed potatoes.

Section 21 (21.119) makes a conforming change to the section relating to the use of certain terms.

Section 22 (21.1195) modifies the minimum standards for potato planting.

Section 23 (21.1196, subdivision 2) specifies requirements for growing potatoes in the restricted seed potato growing area.

Section 24 (21.123) inserts a new section relating to seed potato certification.

Section 25 (21.124) inserts a new section relating to requirements for the production of different classes of certified seed potatoes.

Section 26 (21.125) inserts a new section relating to certified seed potato grades and tolerances.

Section 27 (21.891, subdivision 2) modifies the reporting periods for seed fee permit holders.

Section 28 repeals statutes and rules relating to seed potatoes.

Section 29 states that the article is effective August 1, 2025.

Article 6

Article 6 modifies food handler licensing provisions.

Section 1 (28A.03, subdivision 7) modifies the definition of principal mode of business to include retail and wholesale food handlers only.

Section 2 (28A.03) adds a new definition of risk category.

Section 3 (28A.03) adds a new definition of gross sales or service.

Section 4 (28A.04) modifies food handler and meat processing licensing application and renewal provisions.

Section 5 (28A.05) modifies food handler classes.

Section 6 (28A.06) amends the extent of a food handler license.

Section 7 (28A.07) modifies the issuance of license section so appropriate inspections are made to determine an applicant's risk category and fitness to engage in business activities.

Section 8 (28A.0753, subdivision 3) makes conforming changes.

Section 9 (28A.08) amends license fees and allows the commissioner to adjust fees every five years in line with inflation.

Section 10 (28A.081, subdivision 1) adds clarifying language relating to fees.

Section 11 (28A.085) makes a technical change to the section relating to reinspection fees for licensees who have violated food statutes or rules and modifies reinspection fees.

Section 12 (28A.14) amends the transfer of a business to allow a licensee to discontinue operating at an additional authorized location without voiding their license.

Section 13 (28A.151, subdivision 2) corrects a drafting error relating to food sampling and food product demonstrations.

Section 14 (28A.152, subdivision 1) amends the cottage foods exemption to include sole proprietorships, single-member limited liability companies, and limited liability companies owned by two individuals residing at the same residence so long as the person does not hold a food handler license.

Section 15 (28A.152, subdivision 2) allows cottage foods to be delivered by mail or commercial delivery and makes conforming changes.

Section 16 (28A.152, subdivision 3) makes conforming changes to the cottage foods exemption section.

Section 17 (28A.152, subdivision 4) sets the annual registration fee at \$30 for all exempt cottage foods sellers and makes conforming changes to the cottage foods exemption section.

Section 18 (28A.152, subdivision 5) makes conforming changes to the cottage foods exemption section.

Section 19 (28A.152) adds a new subdivision that requires the commissioner to adjust the limitation on sales for the cottage foods exemption every two years in accordance with inflation.

Section 20 (28A.17) modifies the license renewal section to specify that approval requires compliance with conditions and payment of fees.

Section 21 states that the article is effective August 1, 2025.



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