

**Subject** CRP State Incentives/Easement Stewardship

**Authors** Hansen, R.

**Analyst** Janelle Taylor

**Date** February 7, 2022

## Overview

This bill would make modifications to two easement stewardship accounts used by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and appropriate money to BWSR to provide state incentives to enroll in the federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).

## Summary

Section	Description
---------	-------------

<b>1</b>	<b>Easement stewardship accounts.</b>
----------	---------------------------------------

Allows BWSR to use money from the water and soil conservation easement stewardship account and the mitigation easement stewardship account for repairing or replacing water control structures. Allows BWSR to use up to ten percent of the money in the accounts each year, in addition to the five percent that is already annually appropriated, to cover the emergency repair/replacement of water control structures. The bill would also require the board to include the estimated costs for repairing or replacing structures when calculating the financial contribution made to the account when an easement is acquired.

<b>2</b>	<b>Conservation Reserve Program state incentives; appropriation.</b>
----------	----------------------------------------------------------------------

Appropriates \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 from the general fund to BWSR for onetime state incentives to enrollees in the federal CRP program during the continuous enrollment period. Allows BWSR to establish payment rates and use state funds to provide technical assistance.