

H.F. No. 2446 and S.F. No. 2458 Agriculture Policy Provisions

There are no overlapping policy provisions between the House and Senate agriculture, broadband, and rural development omnibus bills. Below are tables describing the House-only policy provisions and the Senate-only policy provisions.

House-only Provisions

Article 2: Agriculture Statutory Changes		
Revisor Page(s)	House Section	Description
R11	1	Increases the individual grant award amount in the farm down payment assistance grant program from \$15,000 to \$20,000.
R12	2	Amends the definition of “application or use of a pesticide” in the Pesticide Control Chapter. Reorganizes the list of uses to put “mixing” and “loading” under the “other activities” category and deletes the “preapplication activities” category.
R12	3	Adds a definition for “handler” to the Pesticide Control chapter for unlicensed individuals who mix, load, and transport a restricted pesticide under the supervision of a licensed applicator. Specifies that handlers must meet requirements for “direct supervision of noncertified applicators by certified applicators” under Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, section 171.201, which includes training, meeting a minimum age, and receiving instructions.
R13	4	Exempts handlers from the pesticide applicator license requirement. Modifies the state’s application of the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, which would subsequently require MDA to rewrite and resubmit MDA’s certification plan with the EPA.

R14-R15	5	Establishes the biofertilizer innovation and efficiency program that would provide per-acre payments to farmers who reduce their application of commercial nitrogen fertilizers and apply an alternative qualifying product. Requires MDA to conduct rulemaking. Directs MDA to conduct a study to evaluate the effectiveness of the program.
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Senate-only Provisions

Article 3: Policy Provisions		
Revisor Page(s)	Senate Section	Description
R1-R7	1	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.
R7-R8	2	Makes conforming and technical changes related to the advisory committee for the food retail improvement and development program.
R8	3	Modifies the purpose of the agriculture best management practices loan program to support landowners.
R8-R9	4	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.
R9	5	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.
R9-R10	6	Amends the definition of livestock for the purposes of the livestock investment grant program to include more species of animals, including aquaculture.
R10	7	Amends eligibility for livestock investment grants to include tribal governments.
R11	8	Clarifies language relating to family relationships in the definition of eligible farmer for the farm down payment assistance grant program.
R12	9	Requires noxious weeds inspectors to contact landowners prior to entering their land and provide landowners with a copy of the inspection report.

Article 3: Policy Provisions		
Revisor Page(s)	Senate Section	Description
R13	10	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).
R13-R14	11	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.
R14	12	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.
R15-R16	13	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.
R16	14	Makes a conforming change relating to the change in section 13.
R16	15	Adds a new subdivision to the dairy law definitions to define the term milk marketer.
R16-R18	16	Adds a new section requiring a license for any milk marketer and specifying terms, fees, penalties, and license and permit requirements for licensees.
R18	17	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.
R18-R19	18	Modifies the ASTM specification for the definition of ethanol in the ethanol development section in the Agricultural Development chapter.
R19-R20	19	Adds clarifying language in the biofuel production incentive section.
R20	20	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.
R20-R21	21	Amends the beginning farmer loans to state that no loan may be less than \$50,000.

Article 3: Policy Provisions

Revisor Page(s)	Senate Section	Description
R21-R23	22	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.
R23-R24	23	Modifies the due dates for applications in the beginning farmer tax credit program and makes a conforming change related to limited land access farmers.
R24-R25	24	Modifies the dates for tax allocations in the beginning farmer tax credit program.
R25-R26	25	Makes conforming changes related to a report for the beginning farmer tax credit program.
R26	26	Amends the loan restructuring program to state that loans may not be less than \$50,000.
R26	27	Amends the seller-sponsored program to state that loans may not be less than \$50,000.
R26-R27	28	Amends the agricultural improvement loan program to state that loans may not be less than \$50,000.
R27	29	Amends the livestock expansion and modernization loan program to state that loans may not be less than \$50,000.
R27	30	Amends the eligibility for the disaster recovery loan program to require that a borrower's total net worth be less than \$5,000,000.
R27	31	Modifies the pilot agricultural microloan program so it is no longer a pilot program, and loans may be used for purchasing agricultural land.
R28	32	Modifies the farm opportunity loan program to reduce the purposes of the loans.
R28	33	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.
R28-R30	34	Modifies license and examination fees for grain buyers.
R30-R31	35	Modifies grain storage license fees.
R31	36	Modifies the ASTM specification for petroleum products in the chapter on weights and measures.
R31-R32	37	Modifies the ASTM specification for gasoline blended with ethanol in the chapter on weights and measures for petroleum products.
R32	38	Modifies the ASTM specification for denatured ethanol in the chapter on weights and measures for petroleum products.

Article 3: Policy Provisions		
Revisor Page(s)	Senate Section	Description
R32	39	Modifies the ASTM specification for gasoline blended with nonethanol oxygenate in the chapter on weights and measures for petroleum products.
R32	40	Modifies ASTM specification for denatured ethanol in the gasoline tax chapter.
R32-R33	41	Modifies ASTM specification for gasoline in the gasoline tax chapter.
R33	42	Modifies the ASTM specification for gasoline blended with nonethanol oxygenate in the gasoline tax chapter.
R33-R34	43	Inserts a new section prohibiting elective declawing of cats.
R34	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.
R34	46	States that except where stated otherwise, the article is effective August 1, 2025.

Article 4: Livestock Market Agency and Dealer Licensing Provisions		
Revisor Page(s)	Senate Section	Description
R34	1	Contains provisions relating to livestock market agency and dealer licensing.
R34-R35	2	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.
R35	3	Makes a conforming change to the definition of buying station.
R35	4	Inserts a new definition for meat packing company agent.
R35	5	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.
R35	6	Makes a conforming change to the licensing statute.
R36	7	Deletes an obsolete reference.
R36	8	Allows the commissioner to refuse to renew a license in certain circumstances and makes a conforming change.

Article 4: Livestock Market Agency and Dealer Licensing Provisions		
Revisor Page(s)	Senate Section	Description
R36-R37	9	Removes specific requirements for license revocation procedures, retaining that revocation occur in line with the Administrative Procedure Act.
R37	10	Removes the ability for a licensee to waive the ten days' notice requirement.
R37	11	Modifies requirements for bond claim hearings and deletes the provision that all parties may waive a hearing.
R37	12	Amends public notice procedures for bond claims and makes a conforming change.
R38	13	Makes conforming changes.
R38	14	Specifies that the commissioner may take enforcement action when records are not kept.
R38-R39	15	Deletes an obsolete reference.
R39	16	States that the article is effective August 1, 2025.

Article 5: Seed Potato Provisions		
Revisor Page(s)	Senate Section	Description
R39	1	Updates the applicability of definitions in other chapters in chapter 18J relating to inspection and enforcement.
R39	2	Updates the enforcement and inspection duties of the commissioner to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R39	3	Updates the civil liability provisions to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R39	4	Updates access and entry permissions for the commissioner to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R39-R40	5	Updates inspections and sampling permissions for the commissioner to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R40	6	Updates sample and inspection notice requirements for the commissioner to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R40-R41	7	Updates inspection request language to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R41	8	Updates the enforcement section to include the revised seed potato provisions.

Article 5: Seed Potato Provisions		
Revisor Page(s)	Senate Section	Description
R41	9	Updates the commissioner's discretion to issue a warning for a minor violation to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R41	10	Updates the agent for service of legal process subdivision to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R42	11	Updates the false statement or record section to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R42	12	Updates the cancellation of certification subdivision to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R42	13	Updates the service of order or notice subdivision to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R42-R43	14	Updates the unsatisfied judgements subdivision to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R43	15	Updates the crediting of penalties, fees, and costs section to include the revised seed potato provisions.
R43-R45	16	Amends definitions for seed potatoes.
R45	17	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.
R46	18	Modifies certificate provisions for seed potatoes.
R46-R47	19	Makes conforming changes to the seed potato inspection account section.
R47	20	Modifies inspection application withdrawals and adds an inspection application amendment provision relating to seed potatoes.
R47	21	Makes a conforming change to the section relating to the use of certain terms.
R47-R48	22	Modifies the minimum standards for potato planting.
R48-R49	23	Specifies requirements for growing potatoes in the restricted seed potato growing area.
R49-R55	24	Inserts a new section relating to seed potato certification.
R55-R58	25	Inserts a new section relating to requirements for the production of different classes of certified seed potatoes.
R58-R63	26	Inserts a new section relating to certified seed potato grades and tolerances.
R64-R65	27	Modifies the reporting periods for seed fee permit holders.
R65	28	Repeals statutes and rules relating to seed potatoes.
R65	29	States that the article is effective August 1, 2025.

Article 6: Food Handler Licensing Provisions

Revisor Page(s)	Senate Section	Description
R66	1	Modifies the definition of principal mode of business to include retail and wholesale food handlers only.
R66	2	Adds a new definition of risk category.
R66	3	Adds a new definition of gross sales or service.
R66-R68	4	Modifies food handler and meat processing licensing application and renewal provisions.
R68	5	Modifies food handler classes.
R69	6	Amends the extent of a food handler license.
R69	7	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.
R69-R70	8	Makes conforming changes.
R70-R76	9	Amends license fees and allows the commissioner to adjust fees every five years in line with inflation.
R76-R77	10	Adds clarifying language relating to fees.
R77	11	Makes a technical change to the section relating to reinspection fees for licensees who have violated food statutes or rules and modifies reinspection fees.
R77	12	Amends the transfer of a business to allow a licensee to discontinue operating at an additional authorized location without voiding their license.
R77-R78	13	Corrects a drafting error relating to food sampling and food product demonstrations.
R78-R79	14	Corrects a drafting error relating to food sampling and food product demonstrations.
R79	15	Allows cottage foods to be delivered by mail or commercial delivery and makes conforming changes.
R79	16	Makes conforming changes to the cottage foods exemption section.
R79	17	Sets the annual registration fee at \$30 for all exempt cottage foods sellers and makes conforming changes to the cottage foods exemption section.
R80	18	Makes conforming changes to the cottage foods exemption section.
R80	19	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.

Article 6: Food Handler Licensing Provisions

Revisor Page(s)	Senate Section	Description
R80	20	Modifies the license renewal section to specify that approval requires compliance with conditions and payment of fees.
R80	21	States that the article is effective August 1, 2025.