

**Subject** Soil and water conservation district aid program

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## Overview

Establishes a new state aid program for soil and water conservation districts. The aid would distribute \$22,000,000 annually to soil and water conservation districts. Of this amount, 70 percent would be distributed equally among all districts, 20 percent would be distributed according to each district's proportional share of nonpublic land, and 10 percent would be distributed based on each district's population.

**Effective date:** This provision is effective beginning with aids payable in 2023.

## Summary

Section	Description
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1	<b>Soil and water conservation district aid.</b>
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**Subd. 1. Definitions.** Defines terms for the purposes of this section.

**Subd. 2. Purpose.** States that the purpose of this section is to provide ongoing financial support to soil and water conservation districts.

**Subd. 3. Distribution.** Determines aid amounts to be distributed to soil and water conservation districts. The bill would distribute 70 percent of the appropriation equally among all districts, 20 percent of the appropriation according to each district's proportional share of nonpublic land, and 10 percent of the appropriation based on each district's population.

**Subd. 4. Certification to commissioner.** Requires the Board of Water and Soil Resources to certify to the commissioner of revenue payments to soil and water conservation districts under this section.

**Subd. 5. Use of proceeds.** Requires soil and water conservation districts to establish annual guidelines for using payments under this section and post those guidelines on the district's website. Aid payments must be used to implement the duties and services required of the districts in statute. Districts may use the

Section	Description
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	aid to make payments to a governmental unit with which the district has a cooperative agreement.
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**Subd. 6. Payments.** Requires the commissioner of revenue to distribute annual aid payments to districts in two equal installments, one on July 20 and one on December 26.

**Subd. 7. Appropriation.** Annually appropriates \$22,000,000 from the general fund for aid payments under this section.

**Subd. 8. Aid amount corrections.** Requires the Board of Water and Soil Resources to certify to the commissioner of revenue any errors in aid payment calculations. The commissioner of revenue must distribute additional aid payments resulting from the errors.



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