

Subject Dairy Assistance, Investment, Relief Initiative (DAIRI)

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Summary

This bill broadens eligibility for grants under the fiscal year 2024 and fiscal year 2025 DAIRI appropriation. S.F. 3832 is identical to H.F. 3508 that was heard by the Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee. This bill has an immediate effective date.

The DAIRI program provides grants to dairy farms that enroll in the USDA Farm Service Agency's Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) Program which offers financial assistance if the margin between the price of milk and feed costs falls below a certain level. DMC was not open for enrollment in 2024 or 2025, so farmers were unable to establish eligibility for DAIRI. But farmers were able to enroll in DMC at the beginning of 2026.

In the 2023 appropriation, DAIRI grants were based on the amount of milk produced in 2022. This bill clarifies that new dairy farms are eligible for grants and updates the appropriation to allow grants to new dairy farms to be based on the farm's production history established in the farm's DMC enrollment.