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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1503

02/26/2025

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Agriculture Finance and Policy

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to agriculture; establishing a program to provide grants to prevent the
- 1.3 spread of avian influenza; appropriating money.
- 1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.5 Section 1. AVIAN INFLUENZA PREVENTION PROGRAM.
- 1.6 (a) The commissioner of agriculture may award grants to poultry producers to install
- 1.7 avian influenza prevention measures to prevent transmission of avian influenza from wild
- 1.8 birds to domestic poultry. The commissioner may establish a cap on the amount of grant
- 1.9 money that a recipient is eligible to receive annually.
- 1.10 (b) To be eligible for a grant under this section, a poultry producer must raise poultry
- 1.11 within Minnesota. Poultry producers must use grant money to reimburse themselves for the
- 1.12 cost of preventing the spread of avian influenza during operations in Minnesota.
- 1.13 (c) A grant applicant must document a cost-share of 20 percent for activities covered
- 1.14 by a grant under this program. A grant applicant's cost-share amount may be reduced up to
- 1.15 \$2,000 to cover the time and labor costs of avian influenza prevention activities.
- 1.16 (d) Eligible avian influenza prevention measures include but are not limited to:
- 1.17 (1) lasers or lighting systems;
- 1.18 (2) visual deterrents such as air socks, plastic predators, and animal decoys; and
- 1.19 (3) sound systems or air cannons.
- 1.20 (e) Eligible grant recipients must:
- 1.21 (1) make a good faith effort to avoid the spread of avian influenza;

- 2.1 (2) retain proper documentation of expenses;
- 2.2 (3) report annually to the commissioner on the effectiveness of the methods employed;
- 2.3 and
- 2.4 (4) allow follow-up evaluations and monitoring by the commissioner.
- 2.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.
- 2.6 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**
- 2.7 \$..... in fiscal year 2026 and \$..... in fiscal year 2027 are appropriated from the general
- 2.8 fund to the commissioner of agriculture for avian influenza prevention grants under section
- 2.9 1.
- 2.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.