

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

The bill appropriates \$550,000 over the next biennium to the Department of Agriculture for cost-share payments to farmers and others in the agricultural supply chain seeking federal organic certification.

Section

- 1** **Organic certification cost-share.** Appropriates \$275,000 in fiscal years 2008 and 2009 from the general fund to the Department of Agriculture. Aligns state cost-share eligibility and limitations with their federal counterparts. Specifies that persons receiving federal cost-share assistance are not eligible for state assistance. Allows the department to spend unallocated funds on organic producer education efforts, transition assistance, or the sustainable agriculture demonstration grants currently administered by the department and pertaining to organic research or demonstration.