

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

The bill provides a special appropriation to the University of Minnesota for experiment stations, the extension service, and research projects relating to agriculture. The University is urged to give priority to certain projects related to production agriculture and renewable energy. A report on projects funded by this appropriation is required by February 1, 2009.

The "agricultural special" is one of a handful of appropriations granted by the legislature to the University of Minnesota for a specific purpose. The agricultural special dates back to at least the early 1900s.

Section

- 1 University of Minnesota Special Appropriation; Agriculture.** Appropriates \$116 million to the University in the upcoming biennium for agricultural experiment stations, extension services, as research projects demonstrating a renewed emphasis on the needs of the state's production agriculture community and a continued focus on renewable energy derived from Minnesota biomass resources.

Subdivision 1. Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota. Inserts standard appropriation language.

Subd. 2. Agriculture special appropriation. Grants \$58,000,000 in FYs 2008 and 2009 to the University. States that priority should be given to certain production

Section

agriculture and renewable energy education efforts and research projects.

Subd. 3. Report. Requires the University to report to the house and senate agriculture finance and higher education finance committees by February 1, 2009, on the research projects funded with this appropriation.