

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Compensation for certain crop and livestock losses

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Overview

This bill would increase funding for programs that provide compensation to Minnesota farmers whose crops were damaged by elk or whose livestock were crippled or killed by timber wolves.

In 2007, the legislature appropriated \$100,000 in each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009 for these compensation programs. This is the “base” appropriation for these programs going forward.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture has reported that in both years claims exceeded available appropriations; the full \$100,000 for FY 2009—which ends on June 30—has been exhausted.

This bill would provide an additional \$50,000 for the current fiscal year. The base appropriation for the next biennium and beyond would increase by \$150,000 to \$250,000 per year.