

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 340
Version: As introduced

DATE: January 26, 2008

Authors: Hosch

Subject: Modifying the Green Acres program

Analyst: Karen Baker, 651-296-8959
Steve Hinze, 651-296-8956

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

H.F. 340 modifies the Minnesota Agricultural Property Tax Law (better known as the “Green Acres” program) by allowing any land enrolled in the program prior to 2008 to remain in the program indefinitely regardless of ownership, as long as it continues to be in agricultural use under the old (pre-2008) definition. It also allows property owners to withdraw a portion of their rural vacant land from the program without withdrawing all of it, and eliminates the seven-year payback for rural vacant land grandfathered in to the program.

Section

- 1 Property that no longer qualifies as agricultural under 2008 law changes.** This section allows property classified as rural vacant land to remain in Green Acres indefinitely, including allowing it to be reenrolled after a sale or transfer, provided that it continues to be used for agricultural purposes as defined by the old (pre-2008) definition. It also allows property owners to withdraw a portion of their rural vacant land from the program without withdrawing all of it, and eliminates the seven-year payback for rural vacant land grandfathered in under the 2008 changes, so that the payback for all enrolled lands is three years, as it was prior to 2008.

Effective for property taxes payable in 2010 and thereafter.