

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

In general, the state's biodiesel mandate law requires fuel blenders to incorporate a specified amount of biodiesel in each gallon of diesel fuel sold in the state. However, the law exempts specific vehicles and equipment from this requirement. It also exempts all Number 1 diesel fuel sold October through March each year. These exemptions are set to expire on May 1, 2015. This bill would extend the existing exemptions.

A 2012 law extended the expiration of the exemptions from May 1, 2012, to May 1, 2015, and directed the Minnesota Department of Agriculture—in consultation with the Department of Commerce and the state's Biodiesel Task Force—to study the issue and recommend by January 15, 2014, whether the legislature should extend the exemptions further or allow them to expire (Laws 2012, ch. 244, art. 1, § 71).

On January 14, 2014, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture recommended extending the biodiesel mandate exemptions for nuclear energy plants and certain marine vessels ("Report to the Legislature – Annual Report on Biodiesel," p. 24.)

Section

- 1 Exceptions.** Extends existing mandate exemptions an additional five years, to May 1, 2020.