

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 520  
**Version:** As introduced

**DATE:** March 3, 2015

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**Subject:** Authorization of craft wineries

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### Overview

Minnesota law currently authorizes the establishment of farm wineries, which must be farmer-operated and produce wine with a majority of Minnesota ingredients. The law allows farm wineries to: sell wine on their premises, whether on- or off-sale; obtain an on-sale permit; produce distilled spirits up to certain amounts; and warehouse wine off-site. In addition, the law requires farm wineries to be situated on agricultural land.

This bill redefines farm wineries as “craft” wineries and eliminates the farmer operator and agricultural land requirements.

#### Section

- 1**      **Definition of craft winery.** Changes the definition of “farm winery” to “craft winery” and eliminates the requirement that the the owner of a Minnesota farm must operate it.
- 2**      **Craft winery license; agricultural land.** Eliminates the requirement that licenses must be issued to wineries operating on agricultural land.
- 3**      **Instruction.** Instructs the Revisor to change “farm winery” to “craft winery” wherever found.