

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill establishes an Agriculture Research, Education, and Technology Transfer Board to award general fund grants that most efficiently achieve agricultural research, education, and technology transfer through improved infrastructure and accountability. The board would be comprised of agricultural interests, the University of Minnesota, and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system.

The board would issue approximately \$18.7 million in grants each year, with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture allowed to use up to one percent of the appropriation each year for the agency's costs to act as fiscal agent and provide administrative services to the board. A portion of grant funding each year would be dedicated to agricultural education and rapid response to plant and animal diseases and pests.