

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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This bill would appropriate an unspecified amount of money to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to award grants to farmers who can demonstrate financial hardship attributable to the three-year transition period required for federal organic certification.

Under federal law, land used to produce raw organic commodities must not have had prohibited substances applied to it for the past three years. Until this 36-month transition period is complete, the farmer cannot sell, label, or present his or her commodities as organic.