

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 3231
Version: As introduced

DATE: March 18, 2016

Authors: Anderson, P. and others

Subject: Agriculture policy

Analyst: Colbey Sullivan

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

This is the omnibus policy bill for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA).

Section

- 1 Pesticide application on golf courses.** Eliminates language requiring a licensed commercial or noncommercial applicator to have the appropriate use certification before applying pesticide to a golf course.
- 2 Commercial and noncommercial applicators.** Requires commercial and noncommercial applicators to conspicuously post a notice after applying pesticide to an apartment or multiunit dwelling. Specifies information that the applicator must include in the notice. Upon request of a resident of the apartment or multiunit dwelling, the applicator must provide the resident with a copy of the application record created by the applicator. If the application takes place in a public building, a person who uses the public building may request the application record and the applicator must provide it.
- 3 Structural pest control applicators.** Establishes the same notice and application record requirements for structural pest control applicators as those established for commercial and noncommercial applicators in the previous section. Also requires the structural pesticide applicator, company, or authorized agent to maintain pesticide application records for five years.
- 4 Violations; prohibited acts.** Allows MDA to assess a fee when reinspecting a licensed food handler who violated certain food laws regardless of whether the reinspection follows an administrative meeting between MDA and the food handler.

Section

- 5** **Food; tolerances for added poisonous ingredients.** Corrects cross-references to food laws that were consolidated and modified in the 2012 omnibus agriculture policy bill.

- 6** **Organic agriculture; commissioner's duties.** Extends the existence of the Minnesota Organic Advisory Task Force by three years, to June 30, 2019. Directs MDA to demonstrate on-farm organic agriculture practices with other research and education institutions in addition to the University of Minnesota. Requires MDA to work closely with agricultural producer organizations and appropriate agencies to identify organic opportunities and needs and avoid duplication of state agency efforts. Eliminates a requirement that MDA work with the Minnesota Trade Office in the Department of Employment and Economic Development.