HOUSE RESEARCH

- Bill Summary :

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In general, this bill would limit liability for livestock farms when someone files a lawsuit alleging that the farm is a public or private nuisance due to livestock odor. A livestock farm would not receive legal protection under this bill if it:

- (1) violates the state's ambient air quality standard for hydrogen sulfide; and
- (2) does not take action, as directed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) or a County Feedlot Officer (i.e., "the commissioner's designee"), to address the violation.

The bill would not impact prior or ongoing lawsuits, but would instead affect any odor-related nuisance suit initiated against a livestock farm after final enactment of this bill.

According to MPCA, the state's hydrogen sulfide standard is a 30-minute average of 30 parts per billion twice in five days, or a 30-minute average of 50 parts per billion twice per year.