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This bill would prevent the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) from adopting mandatory rules, or “water resource protection requirements,” for nitrogen fertilizer under authority of the Groundwater Protection Act (Minn. Stat. ch. 103H) unless the proposed requirements are specifically approved by law.

MDA is currently proposing the first water resource protection requirements—also known as the nitrogen fertilizer rule—to be issued under authority of the 1989 Groundwater Protection Act. This bill would prohibit adoption of the nitrogen fertilizer rule or any other water resource protection requirements promulgated under the Groundwater Protection Act and pertaining to nitrogen fertilizer unless MDA’s proposed requirements are specifically approved in law.