

Subject Pesticide
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Overview

This bill would lower the noncommercial pesticide applicator license fee for a contractor who applies a restricted-use pesticide while performing rest area custodial services for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT).

Under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 18B, a person must obtain a noncommercial pesticide applicator license from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) before purchasing or applying a restricted-use pesticide as part of their official work duties (Minn. Stat. § 18B.34, subd. 1). A restricted-use pesticide is one identified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency as posing a significant risk to human health and/or the environment if applied improperly.

Under current law, a person who applies any pesticide for hire generally must obtain a commercial pesticide applicator license (Minn. Stat. § 18B.33). According to MDA, if this bill is enacted a contractor providing rest area custodial services for MnDOT who applies only non-restricted-use pesticides would not require a state pesticide applicator license of any kind.