

Subject Dairy farming
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Overview

This bill would establish a Dairy Stabilization Conservation Assistance Program to award grants to Minnesota Grade A and Grade B dairy farmers who self-certify compliance with relevant state dairy and feedlot laws and minimum or higher levels of conservation stewardship, as determined by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA). Those dairy farmers who certify achievement of a higher level of conservation stewardship would receive a higher payment from MDA. MDA could penalize a dairy producer who falsifies eligibility.

The bill appropriates an unspecified amount of money from the general fund for this new program, with a certain portion of the total each year reserved for producers in specified tiers of milk production.

The program would run for two state fiscal years and expire on June 30, 2021.