

**Subject** Agricultural chemical response and reimbursement

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## Summary

This bill would increase the maximum reimbursement or payment amount under the agricultural chemical response and reimbursement account (ACRRA) program from \$279,200 (i.e., 80 percent of (\$350,000 - \$1,000)) to \$479,200 (i.e., 80 percent of (\$600,000 - \$1,000)).

Established in 1989 as part of the Minnesota Groundwater Protection Act, the ACRRA program provides financial assistance to those who remediate spills or other releases of agricultural chemicals (pesticides, fertilizers, soil amendments, and plant amendments) into the environment. The program is administered by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) and funded by annual surcharges and fees paid by agricultural chemical registrants, dealers, and applicators.

In 2021, the legislature directed the MDA to convene stakeholders and make recommendations by February 1, 2022, regarding the maximum ACRAA reimbursement or payment amount (Laws 2021, ch. 28, § 25).