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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A bill for an act

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION

H. F. No.

2398

02/20/2012 Authored by Anderson, P., Eken, Schomacker, Swedzinski, Hamilton and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development Policy and Finance

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relating to agriculture; modifying provisions related to pesticides, plants,
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            nursery law, inspections, enforcements, food, animals, grain, and weights and
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            measures; establishing Dairy Research, Teaching, and Consumer Education
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            Authority; requiring reports; amending Minnesota Statutes 2010, sections
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            17.114, subdivisions 3, 4; 18B.065, subdivision 2a, by adding a subdivision;
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            18B.316, subdivision 6; 18G.02, subdivision 14; 18G.07, subdivision 1; 18G.10,
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            subdivision 7, by adding a subdivision; 18H.02, subdivision 14, by adding a
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            subdivision; 18H.10; 18H.14; 18J.01; 18J.02; 18J.03; 18J.04, subdivisions 1, 2,
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            3, 4; 18J.05, subdivisions 1, 2, 6; 18J.06; 18J.07, subdivisions 3, 4, 5; 21.82,
1.10
            subdivisions 7, 8; 31.13; 31.94; 35.0661, subdivisions 2, 3; 40A.17; 41A.12,
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            subdivisions 2, 4; 223.16, subdivision 12; 223.17, subdivisions 1, 4, 6, 9; 232.21,
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            subdivisions 2, 6, 12; 232.22, subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 7; 232.23, subdivisions 2, 5,
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            10; 232.24, subdivisions 1, 2; 239.092; 239.093; Laws 2011, chapter 14, section
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            6; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 32C; repealing
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            Minnesota Statutes 2010, sections 17B.01; 17B.02; 17B.03; 17B.04; 17B.041;
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            17B.0451; 17B.048; 17B.05; 17B.06; 17B.07; 17B.10; 17B.11; 17B.12; 17B.13;
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            17B.14; 17B.15, subdivisions 1, 3; 17B.16; 17B.17; 17B.18; 17B.20; 17B.22,
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            subdivisions 1, 2; 17B.28; 17B.29; 27.19, subdivisions 2, 3; 27.20; 223.16,
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            subdivision 7; 223.18; 232.21, subdivision 4; 232.24, subdivision 3; 232.25;
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            233.01; 233.015; 233.017; 233.02; 233.03; 233.04; 233.05; 233.06; 233.07;
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            233.08; 233.09; 233.10; 233.11; 233.12; 233.22; 233.23; 233.24; 233.33; 234.01;
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            234.03; 234.04; 234.05; 234.06; 234.08; 234.09; 234.10; 234.11; 234.12; 234.13;
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            234.14; 234.15; 234.16; 234.17; 234.18; 234.19; 234.20; 234.21; 234.22; 234.23;
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            234.24; 234.25; 234.27; 235.01; 235.02; 235.04; 235.05; 235.06; 235.07;
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            235.08; 235.09; 235.10; 235.13; 235.18; 236.01; 236.02; 236.03; 236.04;
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            236.05; 236.06; 236.07; 236.08; 236.09; 395.14; 395.15; 395.16; 395.17;
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            395.18; 395.19; 395.20; 395.21; 395.22; 395.23; 395.24; Minnesota Rules,
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            parts 1505.0780; 1505.0810; 1511.0100; 1511.0110; 1511.0120; 1511.0130;
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            1511.0140; 1511.0150; 1511.0160; 1511.0170; 1562.0100, subparts 3, 4, 5, 6,
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            7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25; 1562.0200;
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            1562.0400; 1562.0700; 1562.0900; 1562.1300; 1562.1800.
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BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 17.114, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

1.35 Subd. 3. **Duties.** (a) The commissioner shall:

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(1) establish a clearinghouse and provide information, appropriate educational
opportunities and other assistance to individuals, producers, and groups about sustainable
agricultural techniques, practices, and opportunities;
(2) survey producers and support services and organizations to determine
information and research needs in the area of sustainable agricultural practices;
(3) demonstrate the on-farm applicability of sustainable agriculture practices to
conditions in this state;
(4) coordinate the efforts of state agencies regarding activities relating to sustainable
agriculture;
(5) direct the programs of the department so as to work toward the sustainability of
agriculture in this state;
(6) inform agencies of how state or federal programs could utilize and support
sustainable agriculture practices;
(7) work closely with farmers, the University of Minnesota, and other appropriate
organizations to identify opportunities and needs as well as assure coordination and
avoid duplication of state agency efforts regarding research, teaching, and extension
work relating to sustainable agriculture; and
(8) work cooperatively with local governments and others to strengthen the
connection between farmers who practice sustainable farming methods and urban, rural,
and suburban consumers, including, but not limited to, promoting local farmers' markets
and community-supported agriculture; and.
(9) report to the Environmental Quality Board for review and then to the house of
representatives and senate committees with jurisdiction over the environment, natural
resources, and agriculture every even-numbered year.
(b) The report under paragraph (a), clause (9), must include:
(1) the presentation and analysis of findings regarding the current status and trends
regarding the economic condition of producers; the status of soil and water resources
utilized by production agriculture; the magnitude of off-farm inputs used; and the amount
of nonrenewable resources used by Minnesota farmers;
(2) a description of current state or federal programs directed toward sustainable
agriculture including significant results and experiences of those programs;
(3) a description of specific actions the Department of Agriculture is taking in the
area of sustainable agriculture, including, but not limited to, specific actions to strengthen
the connection between sustainable farmers and consumers under paragraph (a), clause (8);
(4) a description of current and future research needs at all levels in the area of

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sustainable agriculture; and

(5) suggestions for changes in existing programs or policies or enactment of new programs or policies that will affect farm profitability, maintain soil and water quality, reduce input costs, or lessen dependence upon nonrenewable resources.

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- Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 17.114, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
- Subd. 4. **Integrated pest management.** (a) The state shall promote and facilitate the use of integrated pest management through education, technical or financial assistance, information and research.
- (b) The commissioner shall coordinate the development of a state approach to the promotion and use of integrated pest management, which shall include delineation of the responsibilities of the state, public postsecondary institutions, Minnesota Extension Service, local units of government, and the private sector; establishment of information exchange and integration; procedures for identifying research needs and reviewing and preparing informational materials; procedures for factoring integrated pest management into state laws, rules, and uses of pesticides; and identification of barriers to adoption.
- (c) The commissioner shall report to the Environmental Quality Board for review and then to the house of representatives and senate committees with jurisdiction over the environment, natural resources, and agriculture every even-numbered year. The report shall be combined with the report required in subdivision 3.
 - Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18B.065, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:
- Subd. 2a. **Disposal site requirement.** (a) For agricultural waste pesticides, the commissioner must designate a place in each county of the state that is available at least every other year for persons to dispose of unused portions of agricultural pesticides. The commissioner shall consult with the person responsible for solid waste management and disposal in each county to determine an appropriate location and to advertise each collection event. The commissioner may provide a collection opportunity in a county more frequently if the commissioner determines that a collection is warranted.
- (b) For nonagricultural waste pesticides, the commissioner must provide a disposal opportunity each year in each county or for a group of counties under a joint powers agreement or contract for household hazardous waste disposal.
- (c) As provided under subdivision 7, the commissioner may enter into cooperative agreements with local units of government to provide the collections required under paragraph (a) or (b) and shall provide a local unit of government, as part of the cooperative agreement, with funding for reasonable costs incurred including, but not limited to, related

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supplies, transportation, advertising, and disposal costs as well as reasonable overhead costs.

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(d) A person who collects waste pesticide under this section shall, on a form provided or in a method approved by the commissioner, record information on each waste pesticide product collected including, but not limited to, the quantity collected and either the product name and its active ingredient or ingredients or the United States Environmental Protection Agency registration number. The person must submit this information to the commissioner at least annually by January 30.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18B.065, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 10. **Indemnification.** (a) A local unit of government, when operating or participating in a waste pesticide collection program pursuant to a cooperative agreement with the commissioner under this section, is an employee of the state, certified to be acting within the scope of employment, for purposes of the indemnification provisions of section 3.736, subdivision 9, for claims that arise out of the transportation, management, or disposal of any waste pesticide covered by the agreement:

- (1) from and after the time the waste permanently leaves the local unit of government's possession and comes into the possession of the state's authorized transporter; and
- (2) during the time the waste is transported between the local unit of government facilities by the state's authorized transporter.
- (b) The state is not obligated to defend or indemnify a local unit of government under this subdivision to the extent of the local unit of government's liability insurance. The local unit of government's right to indemnify is not a waiver of the limitation, defenses, and immunities available to either the local unit of government or the state by law.
 - Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18B.316, subdivision 6, is amended to read:
- Subd. 6. **Agricultural pesticide sales invoices.** (a) Sales invoices for agricultural pesticides sold in or into this state by a licensed agricultural pesticide dealer or a pesticide dealer under this section must show the percent of gross sales fee rate assessed and the gross sales fee paid under section 18B.26, subdivision 3, paragraph (c).
- (b) A licensed agricultural pesticide dealer or a pesticide dealer may request an exemption from paragraph (a). The request for exemption must be in writing to the commissioner and must include verifiable information to justify that compliance with paragraph (a) is an extreme business hardship for the licensed agricultural pesticide dealer

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or pesticide dealer. The commissioner may approve or reject a request for exemption 5.1 based upon review of the submitted information. An approved exemption under this 5.2 paragraph is valid for one calendar year. The commissioner must maintain a list of those 5.3 licensed agricultural pesticide dealers or pesticide dealers that have been granted an 5.4 exemption on the department's Web site. 5.5 (c) A licensed agricultural pesticide dealer or a pesticide dealer issued an exemption 5.6 under paragraph (b) must include the following statement on each sales invoice for any 5.7 sale of an agricultural pesticide: "Minnesota Department of Agriculture Annual Gross 5.8 Sales Fees of 0.55% have been Assessed and Paid on the Sale of an Agricultural Pesticide." 5.9 (d) Only the person who actually will pay the gross sales fee may show the rate or 5.10 the amount of the fee as a line item on the sales invoice. 5.11 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18G.02, subdivision 14, is amended to read: 5.12 Subd. 14. Infested. "Infested" means a plant has been overrun by plant pests, 5.13 5.14 including weeds, or contains or harbors plant pests in a quantity that may threaten other plants. 5.15 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18G.07, subdivision 1, is amended to read: 5.16 Subdivision 1. Creation of registry. (a) The commissioner shall maintain a list of 5.17 all persons, businesses, and companies that employ persons who provide tree care or tree 5.18 trimming services in Minnesota. All commercial tree care providers, tree trimmers, and 5.19 persons who employers that direct employees to remove trees, limbs, branches, brush, or 5.20 shrubs for hire must be registered by with the commissioner. 5.21 (b) Persons or companies who are required to be registered under paragraph (a) must 5.22 register annually by providing the following to the commissioner: 5.23 5.24 (1) accurate and up-to-date business name, address, and telephone number; (2) a complete list of all Minnesota counties in which they work; and 5.25 (3) a nonrefundable fee of \$25 for initial application or renewing the registration. 5.26 (c) All persons and companies required to be registered under paragraph (a) must 5.27 register before conducting the activities specified in paragraph (a). Annual registration 5.28 expires December 31, must be renewed annually, and the renewal fee remitted by January 5.29 7 1 of the year for which it is issued. In addition, a penalty of ten percent of the renewal fee 5.30 due must be charged for each month, or portion of a month, that the fee is delinquent up to 5.31 a maximum of 30 percent for any application for renewal postmarked after December 31. 5.32

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18G.10, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

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6.1	Subd. 7. Supplemental, additional, or other certificates and permits. (a) The
6.2	commissioner may provide inspection, sampling, or certification services to ensure
6.3	that Minnesota plant treatment processes, plant products, or commodities meet import
6.4	requirements of other states or countries.
6.5	(b) The state plant regulatory official may issue permits and certificates verifying that
6.6	various Minnesota agricultural <u>plant treatment processes</u> , products, or commodities meet
6.7	specified plant health requirements, treatment requirements, or pest absence assurances
6.8	based on determinations by the commissioner.
6.9	Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18G.10, is amended by adding a subdivision
6.10	to read:
6.11	Subd. 8. Misuse of a certificate or permit. (a) Certificates and permits may not be
6.12	altered, counterfeited, obtained, or used improperly, for any plant product.
6.13	(b) Certificates and permits are not transferable to another location or another person.
6.14	Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18H.02, subdivision 14, is amended to read:
6.15	Subd. 14. Infested. "Infested" means a plant has been overrun by plant pests,
6.16	including weeds, or contains or harbors plant pests in a quantity that may threaten other
6.17	<u>plants</u> .
6.18	Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18H.02, is amended by adding a subdivision
6.19	to read:
6.20	Subd. 16a. Nonhardy. "Nonhardy" means a plant that cannot be expected to
6.21	survive or reliably produce flowers and fruit in average minimum winter temperatures
6.22	at the growing site as determined by the commissioner based upon independent field
6.23	trials and industry input represented by the United States Department of Agriculture
6.24	Plant Hardiness Zone designations.
6.25	Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18H.10, is amended to read:
6.26	18H.10 STORAGE OF NURSERY STOCK.
6.27	(a) All nursery stock must be kept and displayed under conditions of temperature,
6.28	light, and moisture sufficient to maintain the viability and vigor of the nursery stock.
6.29	(b) Packaged dormant nursery stock must be stored under conditions that retard
6.30	growth, prevent etiolated growth, and protect its viability.
6.31	(c) Balled and burlapped nursery stock being held for sale to the public must be kept
6.32	in a moisture-holding material approved by the commissioner and not toxic to plants.

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7.1 The moisture-holding material must adequately cover and protect the ball of earth and must be kept moist at all times.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18H.14, is amended to read:

18H.14 LABELING AND ADVERTISING OF NURSERY STOCK.

- (a) Plants, plant materials, or nursery stock must not be labeled or advertised with false or misleading information including, but not limited to, scientific name, variety, place of origin, hardiness zone as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture, and growth habit.
- (b) All nonhardy nursery stock as designated by the commissioner must be labeled "nonhardy" in Minnesota.
- (b) (c) A person may not offer for distribution plants, plant materials, or nursery stock, represented by some specific or special form of notation, including, but not limited to, "free from" or "grown free of," unless the plants are produced under a specific program approved by the commissioner to address the specific plant properties addressed in the special notation claim.
- (d) Nursery stock collected from the wild state must be inspected and certified prior to sale and at the time of sale must be labeled "Collected from the Wild." The label must remain on each plant or clump of plants while it is offered for sale and during the distribution process. The collected stock may be grown in nursery rows at least two years, after which the plants may be sold without the labeling required by this paragraph.
- 7.21 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.01, is amended to read:
- 7.22 **18J.01 DEFINITIONS.**

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- 7.23 (a) The definitions in sections 18G.02 and, 18H.02, 27.01, 223.16, 231.01, and 232.21 apply to this chapter.
- 7.25 (b) For purposes of this chapter, "associated rules" means rules adopted under this chapter, chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232, or sections 21.80 to 21.92.
- 7.27 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.02, is amended to read:
- 7.28 **18J.02 DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER.**
- The commissioner shall administer and enforce this chapter, chapters 18G and, 18H, 27, 223, 231, and 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; and associated rules.

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Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.03, is amended to read:

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A person regulated by this chapter, chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232, or sections 21.80 to 21.92, is civilly liable for any violation of one of those statutes or associated rules by the person's employee or agent.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Access and entry.** The commissioner, upon presentation of official department credentials, must be granted immediate access at reasonable times to sites where a person manufactures, distributes, uses, handles, disposes of, stores, or transports seeds, plants, grain, household goods, general merchandise, produce, or other living or nonliving products or other objects regulated under chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules.

- Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.04, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- 8.14 Subd. 2. **Purpose of entry.** (a) The commissioner may enter sites for:
- (1) inspection of inventory and equipment for the manufacture, storage, handling, distribution, disposal, or any other process regulated under chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules;
 - (2) sampling of sites, seeds, plants, products, grain, household goods, general merchandise, produce, or other living or nonliving objects that are manufactured, stored, distributed, handled, or disposed of at those sites and regulated under chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules;
 - (3) inspection of records related to the manufacture, distribution, storage, handling, or disposal of seeds, plants, products, grain, household goods, general merchandise, produce, or other living or nonliving objects regulated under chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules;
- 8.26 (4) investigating compliance with chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules; or
- 8.28 (5) other purposes necessary to implement chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 8.29 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules.
- (b) The commissioner may enter any public or private premises during or after regular business hours without notice of inspection when a suspected violation of chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules may threaten public health or the environment.

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Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.04, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

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- Subd. 3. **Notice of inspection samples and analyses.** (a) The commissioner shall provide the owner, operator, or agent in charge with a receipt describing any samples obtained. If requested, the commissioner shall split any samples obtained and provide them to the owner, operator, or agent in charge. If an analysis is made of the samples, a copy of the results of the analysis must be furnished to the owner, operator, or agent in charge within 30 days after an analysis has been performed. If an analysis is not performed, the commissioner must notify the owner, operator, or agent in charge within 30 days of the decision not to perform the analysis.
- (b) The sampling and analysis must be done according to methods provided for under applicable provisions of chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules. In cases not covered by those sections and methods or in cases where methods are available in which improved applicability has been demonstrated the commissioner may adopt appropriate methods from other sources.
 - Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.04, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
- Subd. 4. **Inspection requests by others.** (a) A person who believes that a violation of chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules has occurred may request an inspection by giving notice to the commissioner of the violation. The notice must be in writing, state with reasonable particularity the grounds for the notice, and be signed by the person making the request.
- (b) If after receiving a notice of violation the commissioner reasonably believes that a violation has occurred, the commissioner shall make a special inspection in accordance with the provisions of this section as soon as practicable, to determine if a violation has occurred.
- (c) An inspection conducted pursuant to a notice under this subdivision may cover an entire site and is not limited to the portion of the site specified in the notice. If the commissioner determines that reasonable grounds to believe that a violation occurred do not exist, the commissioner must notify the person making the request in writing of the determination.
- Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

 Subdivision 1. **Enforcement required.** (a) A violation of chapter 18G or, 18H, 27,

 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or an associated rule is a violation of this chapter.

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(b) Upon the request of the commissioner, county attorneys, sheriffs, and other officers having authority in the enforcement of the general criminal laws must take action to the extent of their authority necessary or proper for the enforcement of chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules or valid orders, standards, stipulations, and agreements of the commissioner.

- Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.05, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- Subd. 2. **Commissioner's discretion.** If minor violations of chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules occur or the commissioner believes the public interest will be best served by a suitable notice of warning in writing, this section does not require the commissioner to:
- 10.11 (1) report the violation for prosecution;
- 10.12 (2) institute seizure proceedings; or

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- 10.13 (3) issue a withdrawal from distribution, stop-sale, or other order.
- Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.05, subdivision 6, is amended to read:
- Subd. 6. **Agent for service of process.** All persons licensed, permitted, registered, or certified under chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules must appoint the commissioner as the agent upon whom all legal process may be served and service upon the commissioner is deemed to be service on the licensee, permittee, registrant, or certified person.
- Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.06, is amended to read:

10.21 **18J.06 FALSE STATEMENT OR RECORD.**

- 10.22 A person must not knowingly make or offer a false statement, record, or other information as part of:
- 10.24 (1) an application for registration, license, certification, or permit under chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules;
- 10.26 (2) records or reports required under chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232;

 10.27 sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules; or
- 10.28 (3) an investigation of a violation of chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules.
- Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.07, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- Subd. 3. Cancellation of registration, permit, license, certification. The commissioner may cancel or revoke a registration, permit, license, or certification

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provided for under chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules or refuse to register, permit, license, or certify under provisions of chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules if the registrant, permittee, licensee, or certified person has used fraudulent or deceptive practices in the evasion or attempted evasion of a provision of chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules.

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Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.07, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

- Subd. 4. **Service of order or notice.** (a) If a person is not available for service of an order, the commissioner may attach the order to the facility, site, seed or seed container, plant or other living or nonliving object regulated under chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules and notify the owner, custodian, other responsible party, or registrant.
- (b) The seed, seed container, plant, or other living or nonliving object regulated under chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules may not be sold, used, tampered with, or removed until released under conditions specified by the commissioner, by an administrative law judge, or by a court.
 - Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 18J.07, subdivision 5, is amended to read:
- Subd. 5. **Unsatisfied judgments.** (a) An applicant for a license, permit, registration, or certification under provisions of this chapter, chapter 18G or, 18H, 27, 223, 231, or 232; sections 21.80 to 21.92; or associated rules may not allow a final judgment against the applicant for damages arising from a violation of those statutes or rules to remain unsatisfied for a period of more than 30 days.
 - (b) Failure to satisfy, within 30 days, a final judgment resulting from a violation of this chapter results in automatic suspension of the license, permit, registration, or certification.
- Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 21.82, subdivision 7, is amended to read:
 - Subd. 7. **Vegetable seeds.** For vegetable seeds prepared for use in home gardens or household plantings the requirements in paragraphs (a) to (p) apply. Vegetable seeds packed for sale in commercial quantities to farmers, conservation groups, and other similar entities are considered agricultural seeds and must be labeled accordingly.
 - (a) The label must contain the name of the kind or kind and variety for each seed component in excess of five percent of the whole and the percentage by weight of each in order of its predominance. If the variety of those kinds generally labeled as to variety

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is not stated and it is not required to be stated, the label must show the name of the kind and the words "variety not stated."

- (b) The percentage that is hybrid must be at least 95 percent of the percentage of pure seed shown unless the percentage of pure seed which is hybrid seed is shown separately. If two or more kinds of varieties are present in excess of five percent and are named on the label, each that is hybrid must be designated as hybrid on the label. Any one kind or kind and variety that has pure seed that is less than 95 percent but more than 75 percent hybrid seed as a result of incompletely controlled pollination in a cross must be labeled to show the percentage of pure seed that is hybrid seed or a statement such as "contains from 75 percent to 95 percent hybrid seed." No one kind or variety of seed may be labeled as hybrid if the pure seed contains less than 75 percent hybrid seed. The word "hybrid" must be shown on the label in conjunction with the kind.
- (c) Blends must be listed on the label using the term "blend" in conjunction with the kind.
 - (d) Mixtures shall be listed on the label using the term "mixture," "mix," or "mixed."
 - (e) The label must show a lot number or other lot identification.
 - (f) The origin may be omitted from the label.

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- (g) The label must show the year for which the seed was packed for sale listed as "packed for (year)" for seed with a percentage of germination that exceeds the standard last established by the commissioner, the percentage of germination and the calendar month and year that the percentages were determined by test, or the calendar month and year the germination test was completed and the statement "sell by (month and year listed here)," which may be no more than 12 months from the date of test, exclusive of the month of test.
- (h) For vegetable seeds which germinate less than the standard last established by the commissioner, the label must show:
 - (1) a percentage of germination, exclusive of hard or dormant seed or both;
 - (2) a percentage of hard or dormant seed or both, if present; and
- (3) the words "below standard" in not less than eight point type and the month and year the percentages were determined by test.
- (i) The net weight of the contents or a statement indicating the number of seeds in the container or both, must appear on either the container or the label, except that for containers with contents of 200 seeds or less a statement indicating the number of seeds in the container may be listed along with or in lieu of the net weight of contents.
- (j) The heading for and percentage by weight of pure seed may be omitted from a label if the total is more than 90 percent.

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(k) The heading for and percentage by weight of weed seed may be omitted from a label if they are not present in the seed.

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- (1) The heading "noxious weed seeds" may be omitted from a label if they are not present in the seed.
- (m) The heading for and percentage by weight of other crop seed may be omitted from a label if it is less than five percent.
- (n) The heading for and percentage by weight of inert matter may be omitted from a label if it is less than ten percent.
- (o) The label must contain the name and address of the person who labeled the seed or who sells the seed in this state or a code number that has been registered with the commissioner.
- (p) The labeling requirements for vegetable seeds prepared for use in home gardens or household plantings when sold outside their original containers are met if the seed is weighed from a properly labeled container in the presence of the purchaser.
 - Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 21.82, subdivision 8, is amended to read:
- Subd. 8. **Flower seeds.** For flower and wildflower seeds prepared for use in home gardens or household plantings, the requirements in paragraphs (a) to (l) apply. Flower and wildflower seeds packed for sale in commercial quantities to farmers, conservation groups, and other similar entities are considered agricultural seeds and must be labeled accordingly.
- (a) The label must contain the name of the kind and variety or a statement of type and performance characteristics as prescribed by rule.
- (b) The percentage that is hybrid must be at least 95 percent of the percentage of pure seed shown unless the percentage of pure seed which is hybrid seed is shown separately. If two or more kinds of varieties are present in excess of five percent and are named on the label, each that is hybrid must be designated as hybrid on the label. Any one kind or kind and variety that has pure seed that is less than 95 percent but more than 75 percent hybrid seed as a result of incompletely controlled pollination in a cross must be labeled to show the percentage of pure seed that is hybrid seed or a statement such as "contains from 75 percent to 95 percent hybrid seed." No one kind or variety of seed may be labeled as hybrid if the pure seed contains less than 75 percent hybrid seed. The word "hybrid" must be shown on the label in conjunction with the kind.
- (c) Blends must be listed on the label using the term "blend" in conjunction with the kind.
 - (d) Mixtures must be listed on the label using the term "mixture," "mix," or "mixed."

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(e) The label must contain the lot number or other lot identification.

(f) The origin may be omitted from the label.

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- (g) The label must contain the year for which the seed was packed for sale listed as "packed for (year)" for seed with a percentage of germination that exceeds the standard last established by the commissioner, the percentage of germination and the calendar month and year that the percentages were determined by test, or the calendar month and year the germination test was completed and the statement "sell by (month and year listed here)," which may be no more than 12 months from the date of test, exclusive of the month of test.
- (h) For flower seeds which germinate less than the standard last established by the commissioner, the label must show:
 - (1) percentage of germination exclusive of hard or dormant seed or both;
 - (2) percentage of hard or dormant seed or both, if present; and
- (3) the words "below standard" in not less than eight point type and the month and year this percentage was determined by test.
- (i) The label must show the net weight of contents <u>or a statement indicating the</u> <u>number of seeds in the container, or both,</u> on either the container or the label, except that <u>for containers with contents of 200 seeds or less a statement indicating the number of seeds in the container may be listed along with or in lieu of the net weight of contents.</u>
- (j) The heading for and percentage by weight of pure seed may be omitted from a label if the total is more than 90 percent.
- (k) The heading for and percentage by weight of weed seed may be omitted from a label if they are not present in the seed.
- (1) The heading "noxious weed seeds" may be omitted from a label if they are not present in the seed.
- (m) The heading for and percentage by weight of other crop seed may be omitted from a label if it is less than five percent.
- (n) The heading for and percentage by weight of inert matter may be omitted from a label if it is less than ten percent.
- (o) The label must show the name and address of the person who labeled the seed or who sells the seed within this state, or a code number which has been registered with the commissioner.
 - Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 31.13, is amended to read:

31.13 ANALYSIS; EVIDENCE.

It shall be the duty of the chief chemist and assistants laboratory director, managers, and analysts to make analyses and examinations of such articles as shall be furnished

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to them by the commissioner, for the purpose of determining from such examination whether such articles are adulterated, misbranded, insufficiently labeled, unwholesome, poisonous, or deleterious and whether such articles have been manufactured, used, sold, transported, offered for use, sale, or transportation, or had in possession with intent to use, sell, or transport in violation of any law now or hereafter enacted relating to food, or of any definition, standard, rule, or ruling made and published thereunder, and to certify the result of such analysis and examination to the commissioner. A copy of the result of the examination or analysis of any such article, duly authenticated, by the chemist analyst making such analysis determinations or examination, under oath of such chemist analyst, shall be prima facie evidence in all courts of the matters and facts therein contained.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 31.94, is amended to read:

31.94 COMMISSIONER DUTIES.

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- (a) In order to promote opportunities for organic agriculture in Minnesota, the commissioner shall:
- (1) survey producers and support services and organizations to determine information and research needs in the area of organic agriculture practices;
- (2) work with the University of Minnesota to demonstrate the on-farm applicability of organic agriculture practices to conditions in this state;
- (3) direct the programs of the department so as to work toward the promotion of organic agriculture in this state;
- (4) inform agencies of how state or federal programs could utilize and support organic agriculture practices; and
- (5) work closely with producers, the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Trade Office, and other appropriate organizations to identify opportunities and needs as well as ensure coordination and avoid duplication of state agency efforts regarding research, teaching, marketing, and extension work relating to organic agriculture.
- (b) By November 15 of each even-numbered year that ends in a zero or a five, the commissioner, in conjunction with the task force created in paragraph (c), shall report on the status of organic agriculture in Minnesota to the legislative policy and finance committees and divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture. The report must include: available data on organic acreage and production, available data on the sales or market performance of organic products, and recommendations regarding programs, policies, and research efforts that will benefit Minnesota's organic agriculture sector.
- (1) a description of current state or federal programs directed toward organic agriculture, including significant results and experiences of those programs;

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16.1	(2) a description of specific actions the department of agriculture is taking in the
16.2	area of organic agriculture, including the proportion of the department's budget spent on
16.3	organic agriculture;
16.4	(3) a description of current and future research needs at all levels in the area of
16.5	organic agriculture;
16.6	(4) suggestions for changes in existing programs or policies or enactment of new
16.7	programs or policies that will affect organic agriculture;
16.8	(5) a description of market trends and potential for organic products;
16.9	(6) available information, using currently reliable data, on the price received, yield,
16.10	and profitability of organic farms, and a comparison with data on conventional farms; and
16.11	(7) available information, using currently reliable data, on the positive and negative
16.12	impacts of organic production on the environment and human health.
16.13	(c) A Minnesota Organic Advisory Task Force shall advise the commissioner and the
16.14	University of Minnesota on policies and programs that will improve organic agriculture in
16.15	Minnesota, including how available resources can most effectively be used for outreach,
16.16	education, research, and technical assistance that meet the needs of the organic agriculture
16.17	community. The task force must consist of the following residents of the state:
16.18	(1) three farmers using organic agriculture methods;
16.19	(2) one wholesaler or distributor of organic products;
16.20	(3) one representative of organic certification agencies;
16.21	(4) two organic processors;
16.22	(5) one representative from University of Minnesota Extension;
16.23	(6) one University of Minnesota faculty member;
16.24	(7) one representative from a nonprofit organization representing producers;
16.25	(8) two public members;
16.26	(9) one representative from the United States Department of Agriculture;
16.27	(10) one retailer of organic products; and
16.28	(11) one organic consumer representative.
16.29	The commissioner, in consultation with the director of the Minnesota Agricultural
16.30	Experiment Station; the dean and director of University of Minnesota Extension; and the
16.31	dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences shall appoint
16.32	members to serve staggered two-year terms.
16.33	Compensation and removal of members are governed by section 15.059, subdivision
16.34	6. The task force must meet at least twice each year and expires on June 30, 2013.
16.35	(d) For the purposes of expanding, improving, and developing production and
16.36	marketing of the organic products of Minnesota agriculture, the commissioner may

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receive funds from state and federal sources and spend them, including through grants or contracts, to assist producers and processors to achieve certification, to conduct education or marketing activities, to enter into research and development partnerships, or to address production or marketing obstacles to the growth and well-being of the industry.

(e) The commissioner may facilitate the registration of state organic production and handling operations including those exempt from organic certification according to Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 205.101, and certification agents operating within the state.

Sec. 32. [32C.01] ORGANIZATION.

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Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The Dairy Research, Teaching, and Consumer Education Authority is established as a public corporation. The business of the authority must be conducted under the name "Dairy Research, Teaching, and Consumer Education Authority."

Subd. 2. **Board of directors.** The authority is governed by a board of nine directors. The term of a director, except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, is four years. The commissioner of agriculture is a member of the board. The governor shall appoint four members of the board. Two of the members appointed by the governor must be currently engaged in the business of operating a dairy. Two of the members appointed by the governor must be representatives of Minnesota-based businesses actively engaged in working with or serving Minnesota's dairy industry. The dean of the University of Minnesota College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences, or the dean's designee, is a member of the board. One member of the board must be a representative of a state trade association that represents the interests of milk producers. One member of the board must be a representative of the Minnesota Division of the Midwest Dairy Council. One member of the board must be a member of the agricultural education faculty of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System. The four members of the initial board of directors who are appointed by the governor must be appointed for terms of four years, and the other four members must be appointed for an initial term of two years. Vacancies for the governor's appointed positions on the board must be filled by appointment of the governor. Vacancies for other positions on the board must be filled by the named represented entities. Board members must not be compensated for their services.

Subd. 3. **Bylaws.** The board must adopt bylaws necessary for the conduct of the business of the authority, consistent with this chapter.

Subd. 4. Place of business. The board must locate and maintain the authority's place of business within the state.

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18.1	Subd. 5. Chair. The board must annually elect from among its members a chair and
18.2	other officers necessary for the performance of its duties.
18.3	Subd. 6. Meetings. The board must meet at least four times each year and may hold
18.4	additional meetings upon giving notice in accordance with the bylaws of the authority.
18.5	Board meetings are subject to chapter 13D.
18.6	Subd. 7. Conflict of interest. A director, employee, or officer of the authority may
18.7	not participate in or vote on a decision of the board relating to an organization in which
18.8	the director has either a direct or indirect financial interest.
18.9	Subd. 8. Economic interest statements. Directors and officers of the authority are
18.10	public officials for the purpose of section 10A.09, and must file statements of economic
18.11	interest with the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board.
18.12	Sec. 33. [32C.02] POWERS.
18.13	Subdivision 1. General corporate powers. (a) The authority has the powers granted
18.14	to a business corporation by section 302A.161, subdivisions 3; 4; 5; 7; 8; 9; 11; 12; 13,
18.15	except that the authority may not act as a general partner in any partnership; 14; 15; 16; 17;
18.16	18; and 22, and the powers necessary or convenient to exercise the enumerated powers.
18.17	(b) Section 302A.041 applies to this chapter and the authority in the same manner
18.18	that it applies to business corporations established under chapter 302A.
18.19	Subd. 2. Facility design; development and operation. The authority may enter into
18.20	management contracts, lease agreements, or both, with a Minnesota nonprofit corporation
18.21	to design, develop, and operate a facility to further the purposes of this chapter at the site
18.22	determined by the board and on the terms that the board finds desirable. The board must
18.23	identify and acquire a site that will accommodate the following facilities and activities:
18.24	(1) housing for bred and lactating animals;
18.25	(2) milking parlor;
18.26	(3) automatic milking systems;
18.27	(4) cross-ventilated and natural-ventilated housing;
18.28	(5) transition cow housing;
18.29	(6) special needs and hospital housing;
18.30	(7) classrooms and a conference room;
18.31	(8) dairy processing facility with retail;
18.32	(9) visitors' center;
18.33	(10) student housing;
18.34	(11) laboratory facilities;

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(12) space to accommodate installation of an anaerobic digester system to research 19.1 19.2 energy production from feedstock produced on-site or from off-site sources; and (13) space for feed storage to allow for research capabilities at the facility. 19.3 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 32C.01, subdivision 7, relating to conflict 19.4 of interest, a director or officer of the authority who is also a director, officer, or member 19.5 of a nonprofit corporation with which the authority enters into management contracts or 19.6 lease agreements may participate in and vote on the decision of the board as to the terms 19.7 and conditions of management contracts or lease agreements between the Minnesota 19.8 nonprofit corporation and the authority. 19.9 Subd. 3. **Funds.** The authority may accept and use gifts, grants, or contributions 19.10 from any source to support operation of the facility. Unless otherwise restricted by the 19.11 terms of a gift or bequest, the board may sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of, and 19.12 invest or reinvest the money, securities, or other property given or bequeathed to it. The 19.13 principal of these funds, the income from them, and all other revenues received by the 19.14 19.15 authority from any nonstate source must be placed in depositories chosen by the board and are subject to expenditure for the board's purposes. Expenditures of \$25,000 or more 19.16 must be approved by the full board. 19.17 19.18 Subd. 4. Animals; regulation. The authority must comply with all applicable laws and rules relating to quarantine, transportation, examination, habitation, care, and 19.19 19.20 treatment of animals. Sec. 34. [32C.03] EMPLOYEES. 19.21 19.22 (a) The board may hire an executive director of the authority and other employees 19.23 the board considers necessary to carry out the program, conduct research, and operate and

maintain facilities of the authority.

(b) Persons employed by contractors or lessees are not state employees and may not participate in state retirement, deferred compensation, insurance, or other plans that apply to state employees generally and are not subject to regulation by the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board, provided, however, that any employee of the state or any employee or faculty member of the University of Minnesota or Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System who teaches or conducts research at the authority does not have their status as employees of the state, the University of Minnesota, or Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System interrupted by virtue of having their employment activity take place at facilities owned by the authority.

Sec. 35. [32C.04] ACCOUNTS; AUDITS.

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The authority may establish funds and accounts that it determines to be reasonable and necessary to conduct the business of the authority. The board shall provide for and pay the cost of an independent annual audit of its official books and records by the state auditor. A copy of this audit must be filed with the secretary of state.

Sec. 36. [32C.05] ANNUAL REPORT.

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The board shall submit a report to the chairs of the senate and house of representatives agriculture committees and the governor on the activities of the authority and its contractors and lessees by February 1 of each year. The report must include at least the following:

- (1) a description of each of the programs that the authority has provided or undertaken at some time during the previous year;
- 20.12 (2) an identification of the sources of funding in the previous year for the authority's programs including federal, state, and local government, foundations, gifts, donations, fees, and all other sources;
 - (3) a description of the administrative expenses of the authority during the previous year;
 - (4) a listing of the assets and liabilities of the authority at the end of the previous fiscal year;
- 20.19 (5) a description of any changes made to the operational plan during the previous year; and
 - (6) a description of any newly adopted or significant changes to bylaws, policies, rules, or programs created or administered by the authority during the previous year.

Reports must be made to the legislature as required by section 3.195.

- Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 35.0661, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- Subd. 2. **Quarantine zones.** Upon an emergency declaration by the governor under subdivision 1, the board or any licensed veterinarian designated by the board may establish quarantine zones of control in any area where a specific animal is deemed by a licensed veterinarian as likely to be infected with the disease based on an actual veterinary examination or laboratory testing. Quarantine zones of control to restrict the movement of livestock must be the smallest size practicable to prevent the spread of disease and must exist for the shortest duration consistent with effective disease control. A quarantine zone of control must not extend beyond a radius of three miles from an animal deemed as likely to be infected with the disease, unless the board has adopted a rule regarding a specific disease requiring a larger quarantine zone of control.

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Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 35.0661, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

- Subd. 3. **Restrictions on movement out of quarantine zones.** (a) The board may issue orders restricting the movement of persons, livestock, machinery, and personal property out of zones off infected premises designated by the board as quarantined under subdivision 2. The executive director of the board or any licensed veterinarian designated by the board may issue the orders. An order may be issued upon a determination that reasonable cause exists to believe that the movement of persons or personal property out of a quarantine zone will reasonably threaten to transport a dangerous, infectious, or communicable disease outside of the quarantine zone.
- (b) The order must be served upon any person subject to the order. The restrictions sought by the board on movement out of a quarantine zone must be limited to the greatest extent possible consistent with the paramount disease control objectives as determined by the board. An order under this section may be served on any day at any time. The order must include a notice of the person's rights under this section, including the ability to enter into an agreement to abide by disease control measures under paragraph (c) and the right to request a court hearing under paragraph (d).
- (c) No person may be restricted by an order under this subdivision for longer than 72 hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, so long as the person agrees to abide by the disease control measures established by the board. The person shall sign an acknowledgment form prepared by the board evidencing the person's agreement to abide by the disease control measures established by the board.
- (d) A person whose movements are restricted by an order under this subdivision may seek a district court hearing on the order at any time after it is served on the person. The hearing may be held by electronic means as soon as possible. The subject of the order may:
- (1) contest imposition of the order on grounds that it is an abuse of the board's discretion under this section; or
- (2) seek a variance from it to allow movement of a person inconsistent with the order, upon a showing that the person would otherwise suffer irreparable harm.
 - Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 40A.17, is amended to read:

40A.17 REPORT.

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The commissioner shall report to the legislature on <u>January March</u> 1 of each <u>even-numbered</u> year on activities under this chapter. By July 1, 1985, the report must include the survey of public awareness in the awareness program. The report shall include recommendations for funding levels and other necessary legislative action.

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Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 41A.12, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Activities authorized.** For the purposes of this program, the commissioner may issue grants, loans, or other forms of financial assistance. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to, grants to livestock producers under the livestock investment grant program under section 17.118, bioenergy awards made by the NextGen Energy Board under section 41A.105, cost-share grants for the installation of biofuel blender pumps, and financial assistance to support other rural economic infrastructure activities.

- Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 41A.12, subdivision 4, is amended to read: Subd. 4. **Sunset.** This section expires on June 30, 2013 <u>2015</u>.
- Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 223.16, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

 Subd. 12. **Public grain warehouse operator.** "Public grain warehouse operator"

 means a person operating a grain warehouse in which grain belonging to persons other than the grain warehouse operator is accepted for storage or purchase or who offers grain storage or warehouse facilities to the public for hire or a feed-processing plant that receives and stores grain, the equivalent of which it processes and returns to the grain's owner in amounts, at intervals, and with added ingredients that are mutually agreeable to the grain's owner and the person operating the plant.
- Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 223.17, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

 Subdivision 1. **Licenses.** An application for a grain buyer's license must be filed with the commissioner and the license issued before any grain may be purchased. The commissioner must provide application forms and licenses that state the restrictions and authority to purchase and store grain under the license being applied for and issued. The categories of grain buyers' licenses are:
 - (a) private grain warehouse operator's license;
- 22.25 (b) public grain warehouse operator's license; and
- 22.26 (c) independent grain buyer's license.

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The applicant for a grain buyer's license shall identify all grain buying locations owned or controlled by the grain buyer and all vehicles owned or controlled by the grain buyer used to transport purchased grain. Every applicant for a grain buyer's license shall have a permanent established place of business at each licensed location. An "established place of business" means a permanent enclosed building, including a house or a farm, either owned by the applicant or leased by the applicant for a period of at least one year, and where the books, records, and files necessary to conduct the business are kept and

Sec. 43. 22

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maintained. The commissioner may maintain information on grain buyers by categories 23.1 including, but not limited to, the categories provided in clauses (a) to (c) and grain buyers 23.2 that are licensed to purchase grain using trucks but that do not have a public or private 23.3 warehouse license. 23.4 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 223.17, subdivision 4, is amended to read: 23.5 Subd. 4. **Bond.** (a) Before a grain buyer's license is issued, the applicant for 23.6 the license must file with the commissioner a bond in a penal sum prescribed by the 23.7 commissioner but not less than the following amounts: 23.8 (a) (1) \$10,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are \$100,000 or less; 23.9 (b) (2) \$20,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than 23.10 \$100,000 but not more than \$750,000; 23.11 (e) (3) \$30,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than 23.12 \$750,000 but not more than \$1,500,000; 23.13 23.14 (d) (4) \$40,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than \$1,500,000 but not more than \$3,000,000; 23.15 (e) (5) \$50,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than 23.16 23.17 \$3,000,000 but not more than \$6,000,000; (f) (6) \$70,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than 23.18 \$6,000,000 but not more than \$12,000,000; 23.19 (g) (7) \$125,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than 23.20 \$12,000,000 but not more than \$24,000,000; and 23.21 (h) (8) \$150,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases exceed \$24,000,000. 23.22 (b) A grain buyer who has filed a bond with the commissioner prior to July 1, 2004, 23.23 is not required to increase the amount of the bond to comply with this section until July 1, 23.24 23.25 2005. The commissioner may postpone an increase in the amount of the bond until July 1, 2006, if a licensee demonstrates that the increase will impose undue financial hardship on 23.26 the licensee, and that producers will not be harmed as a result of the postponement. The 23.27 commissioner may impose other restrictions on a licensee whose bond increase has been 23.28 postponed. The amount of the bond shall be based on the most recent financial statement 23.29 gross annual grain purchase report of the grain buyer filed under subdivision 6. 23.30 (c) A first-time applicant for a grain buyer's license shall file a \$50,000 bond with the 23.31 commissioner. This bond shall remain in effect for the first year of the license. Thereafter, 23.32 the licensee shall comply with the applicable bonding requirements contained in clauses 23.33

Sec. 44. 23

(a) to (h) paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (8).

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(d) In lieu of the bond required by this subdivision the applicant may deposit with 24.1 the commissioner of management and budget cash, a certified check, a cashier's check, 24.2 a postal, bank, or express money order, assignable bonds or notes of the United States, 24.3 or an assignment of a bank savings account or investment certificate or an irrevocable 24.4 bank letter of credit as defined in section 336.5-102, in the same amount as would be 24.5 required for a bond. 24.6 (e) Bonds must be continuous until canceled. To cancel a bond, a surety must provide 24.7 90 days' written notice of the bond's termination date to the licensee and the commissioner. 24.8 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 223.17, subdivision 6, is amended to read: 24.9 Subd. 6. Financial statements. For the purpose of fixing or changing the amount of 24.10 a required bond or for any other proper reason, (a) The commissioner shall may require an 24.11 annual financial statement from a licensee which has been prepared in accordance with 24.12 generally accepted accounting principles and which meets the following requirements: 24.13 24.14 (a) (1) The financial statement shall include, but not be limited to the following: (1) (i) a balance sheet; (2) 24.15 (ii) a statement of income (profit and loss); (3) 24.16 (iii) a statement of retained earnings; (4) 24.17 (iv) a statement of changes in financial position; and (5) 24.18 (v) a statement of the dollar amount of grain purchased in the previous fiscal year 24.19 of the grain buyer. 24.20 (b) (2) The financial statement shall be accompanied by a compilation report of the 24.21 24.22 financial statement that is prepared by a grain commission firm or a management firm approved by the commissioner or by an independent public accountant, in accordance with 24.23 standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Grain 24.24 24.25 buyers purchasing less than 150,000 bushels of grain per calendar year may submit a financial statement prepared by a public accountant who is not an employee or a relative 24.26 within the third degree of kindred according to civil law. 24.27 (c) (3) The financial statement shall be accompanied by a certification by the chief 24.28 executive officer or the chief executive officer's designee of the licensee, under penalty 24.29 of perjury, that the financial statement accurately reflects the financial condition of the 24.30 licensee for the period specified in the statement. 24.31 (b) Only one financial statement must be filed for a chain of warehouses owned 24.32 or operated as a single business entity, unless otherwise required by the commissioner. 24.33 Any grain buyer having a net worth in excess of \$500,000,000 need not file the financial 24.34

statement required by this subdivision but must provide the commissioner with a certified

Sec. 45. 24

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net worth statement. All financial statements filed with the commissioner are private or nonpublic data as provided in section 13.02.

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Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 223.17, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Defaults; violations.** It is a violation under this chapter if the commissioner finds, after an investigation is conducted, that a complaint is valid or that a licensee is in violation of the provisions of this chapter, the commissioner may immediately suspend the license, in which case the licensee shall surrender the license to the commissioner.

Within 15 days, the licensee may request an administrative hearing subject to chapter 14 to determine whether the license should be revoked. If no request is made within 15 days, the commissioner shall revoke the license.

- Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 232.21, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

 Subd. 2. **Bond.** "Bond" means an acceptable obligation, running to the state as obligee, for the purpose of indemnifying depositors and producers of grain against breach of contract by a public grain warehouse or grain bank operator.
- Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 232.21, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

 Subd. 6. **Depositor.** "Depositor" means a person who is the owner or legal holder of
 an outstanding grain warehouse receipt, grain bank receipt or open scale ticket marked
 for storage on which a receipt is to be issued, representing any grain stored in a public
 grain warehouse or grain bank.
 - Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 232.21, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

 Subd. 12. **Public grain warehouse operator.** "Public grain warehouse operator"

 means a person licensed to operate a grain warehouse in which grain belonging to persons other than the grain warehouse operator is accepted for storage or purchase, or who offers grain storage or grain warehouse facilities to the public for hire or a feed-processing plant that receives and stores grain, the equivalent of which, it processes and returns to the grain's owner in amounts, at intervals, and with added ingredients that are mutually agreeable to the grain's owner and the person operating the plant.
 - Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 232.22, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

 Subd. 3. **Fees; grain buyers and storage account.** There is created in the agricultural fund an account known as the grain buyers and storage account. The commissioner shall set the fees for inspections examinations, certifications, and licenses

Sec. 50. 25

under sections 232.20 to 232.25 and elapters 233 and 236 232.24. All money collected pursuant to sections 232.20 to 232.25 and chapters 233 and 236 232.24 shall be paid by the commissioner into the state treasury and credited to the grain buyers and storage account and is appropriated to the commissioner for the administration and enforcement of sections 232.20 to 232.25 and chapters 233 and 236 232.24. All money collected pursuant to chapter 231 shall be paid by the commissioner into the grain buyers and storage account and is appropriated to the commissioner for the administration and enforcement of chapter 231.

The fees for a license to store grain are as follows:

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- (a) For a license to store grain, \$110 for each home rule charter or statutory city or town in which a public grain warehouse is operated.
- (b) A person with a license to store grain in a public grain warehouse is subject to an examination fee for each licensed location, based on the following schedule for one examination:

26.15	Bushel Capacity	Exam	ination
26.16			Fee
26.17	Less than 150,001	\$	300
26.18	150,001 to 250,000	\$	425
26.19	250,001 to 500,000	\$	545
26.20	500,001 to 750,000	\$	700
26.21	750,001 to 1,000,000	\$	865
26.22	1,000,001 to 1,200,000	\$	1,040
26.23	1,200,001 to 1,500,000	\$	1,205
26.24	1,500,001 to 2,000,000	\$	1,380
26.25	More than 2,000,000	\$	1,555

- (c) The fee for the second examination is \$55 per hour per examiner for warehouse operators who choose to have it performed by the commissioner.
- (d) A penalty amount not to exceed ten percent of the fees due may be imposed by the commissioner for each month for which the fees are delinquent.
 - Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 232.22, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
- Subd. 4. **Bonding.** (a) Before a license is issued, the applicant for a public grain warehouse operator's license shall file with the commissioner a bond in a penal sum prescribed by the commissioner. The penal sum on a condition one bond shall be established by rule by the commissioner pursuant to the requirements of chapter 14 for all grain outstanding on grain warehouse receipts. The penal sum on a condition two bond shall not be less than \$10,000 for each location up to a maximum of five locations. based on the annual average storage liability as stated on the statement of grain in storage

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27.1	report or on the gross annual grain purchase report, whichever is greater, and applying
27.2	the following amounts:
27.3	(1) \$10,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than \$0 but
27.4	not more than \$25,000;
27.5	(2) \$20,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than \$25,001
27.6	but not more than \$50,000;
27.7	(3) \$30,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than \$50,001
27.8	but not more than \$75,000;
27.9	(4) \$50,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than \$75,001
27.10	but not more than \$100,000;
27.11	(5) \$75,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than \$100,001
27.12	but not more than \$200,000;
27.13	(6) \$125,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than
27.14	\$200,001 but not more than \$300,000;
27.15	(7) \$175,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than
27.16	\$300,001 but not more than \$400,000;
27.17	(8) \$225,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than
27.18	\$400,001 but not more than \$500,000;
27.19	(9) \$275,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than
27.20	\$500,001 but not more than \$600,000;
27.21	(10) \$325,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than
27.22	\$600,001 but not more than \$700,000;
27.23	(11) \$375,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than
27.24	\$700,001 but not more than \$800,000;
27.25	(12) \$425,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than
27.26	\$800,001 but not more than \$900,000;
27.27	(13) \$475,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than
27.28	\$900,001 but not more than \$1,000,000; and
27.29	(14) \$500,000 for storages with annual average storage liability of more than
27.30	<u>\$1,000,000.</u>
27.31	(b) Bonds must be continuous until canceled. To cancel a bond, a surety must provide
27.32	90 days' written notice of the bond's termination date to the licensee and the commissioner.
27.33	Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 232.22, subdivision 5, is amended to read:
27.34	Subd. 5. Statement of grain in storage; reports. (a) All public grain warehouse
27.35	operators must by the tenth day of each month February 15 of each year file with the

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commissioner on forms a form approved by the commissioner a report showing the net annual average liability of all grain outstanding on grain warehouse receipts as of the close of business on the last day of that occurred during the preceding month calendar year.

This report shall be used for the purpose of establishing the penal sum of the bond.

(b) Warehouse operators that are at a maximum bond and want to continue at maximum bond do not need to file this report.

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- (b) If (c) It is a violation of this chapter for any public grain warehouse operator willfully neglects or refuses to fail to file the report required in clause (a) for two consecutive months, the commissioner may immediately suspend the person's license and the licensee must surrender the license to the commissioner. Within 15 days the licensee may request an administrative hearing subject to chapter 14 to determine if the license should be revoked. If no request is made within 15 days the commissioner shall revoke the license.
- (e) (d) Every public grain warehouse operator shall keep in a place of safety complete and accurate records and accounts relating to any grain warehouse operated. The records shall reflect each commodity received and shipped daily, the balance remaining in the grain warehouse at the close of each business day, a listing of all unissued grain warehouse receipts in the operator's possession, a record of all grain warehouse receipts issued which remain outstanding and a record of all grain warehouse receipts which have been returned for cancellation. Copies of grain warehouse receipts or other documents evidencing ownership of grain by a depositor, or other liability of the grain warehouse operator, shall be retained as long as the liability exists but must be kept for a minimum of three years.
- (d) (e) Every public grain warehouse operator must maintain in the grain warehouse at all times grain of proper grade and sufficient quantity to meet delivery obligations on all outstanding grain warehouse receipts.
 - Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 232.22, subdivision 7, is amended to read:
- Subd. 7. **Bond disbursement.** (a) The condition one bond of a public grain warehouse operator must be conditioned that the public grain warehouse operator issuing a grain warehouse receipt is liable to the depositor for the delivery of the kind, grade and net quantity of grain called for by the receipt.
- (b) The condition two bond shall provide for payment of loss caused by the grain buyer's failure to pay, upon the owner's demand, the purchase price of grain sold to the grain buyer. The bond shall be conditioned upon the grain buyer being duly licensed as provided herein. The bond shall not cover any transaction which constitutes a voluntary extension of credit.

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(e) (b) Upon notification of default, the commissioner shall determine the validity of all claims and notify all parties having filed claims. Any aggrieved party may appeal the commissioner's determination by requesting, within 15 days, that the commissioner initiate a contested case proceeding. In the absence of such a request, or following the issuance of a final order in a contested case, the surety company shall issue payment to those claimants entitled to payment. If the commissioner determines it is necessary, the commissioner may apply to the district court for an order appointing a trustee or receiver to manage and supervise the operations of the grain warehouse operator in default. The commissioner may participate in any resulting court proceeding as an interested party.

(d) (c) For the purpose of determining the amount of bond disbursement against all valid claims under a condition one bond, all grain owned or stored in the public grain warehouse shall be sold and the combined proceeds deposited in a special fund. Payment shall be made from the special fund satisfying the valid claims of grain warehouse receipt holders.

(e) (d) If a public grain warehouse operator has become liable to more than one depositor or producer by reason of breaches of the conditions of the bond and the amount of the bond is insufficient to pay, beyond the proceeds of the special fund, the entire liability to all valid claimants, the proceeds of the bond and special fund shall be apportioned among the valid claimants on a pro rata basis.

(f) (e) A bond is not cumulative from one licensing period to the next. The maximum liability of the bond shall be its face value for the licensing period.

Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 232.23, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Scale tickets.** A public or private grain warehouse operator, upon receiving grain, shall issue a scale ticket for each load of grain received. Scale tickets shall contain the name, location and the date of each transaction, weight, volume, kind of grain, signature of warehouse operator, and be consecutively numbered. A duplicate copy of each scale ticket shall remain in the possession of the public or private grain warehouse operator as a permanent record. The original scale ticket shall be delivered to the depositor upon receipt of each load of grain. Each scale ticket shall have printed across its face "This is a memorandum, nonnegotiable, possession of which does not signify that settlement has or has not been consummated." The scale ticket shall state specifically whether the grain is received on contract, for storage, for shipment or consignment or sold. If the grain is received on contract or sold, the price shall be indicated on the scale ticket. All scale tickets shall be dated and signed by the public or private grain warehouse operator or the operator's agent or manager.

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Sec. 55. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 232.23, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

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Subd. 5. **Void agreements; penalty.** A provision or agreement in a grain warehouse receipt not contained in subdivision 4 is void. The failure to issue a grain warehouse receipt, as directed, or the issuance of slips, memoranda or other forms of receipt embracing a different grain warehouse or storage contract is a misdemeanor, and no slip, memorandum or other form of receipt is admissible as evidence in any civil action. Nothing in sections 232.20 to 232.25 232.24 requires or compels any person operating a flour, cereal or feed mill or malthouse doing a manufacturing business, to receive, store or purchase at the mill or malthouse any kind of grain.

Sec. 56. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 232.23, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Delivery of grain.** (a) On the redemption of a grain warehouse receipt and payment of all lawful charges, the grain represented by the receipt is immediately deliverable to the depositor or the depositor's order, and is not subject to any further charge for storage after demand for delivery has been made and proper facilities for receiving and shipping the grain have been provided. If delivery has not commenced within 48 hours after demand has been made and proper facilities have been provided, the public grain warehouse operator issuing the grain warehouse receipt is liable to the owner in damages not exceeding two cents per bushel for each day's delay, unless the public grain warehouse operator makes delivery to different owners in the order demanded as rapidly as it can be done through ordinary diligence, or unless insolvency has occurred.

(b) If a disagreement arises between the person receiving and the person delivering the grain at a public grain warehouse in this state as to the proper grade or dockage of any grain, an average sample of at least three quarts of the grain in dispute may be taken by either or both of the persons interested. The sample shall be certified by both the owner and the public grain warehouse operator as being true samples of the grain in dispute on the delivery day. The samples shall be forwarded in a suitable airtight container by parcel post or express, prepaid, with the name and address of both parties, to the head of the a United States Department of Agriculture authorized grain inspection program of the Department of Agriculture, who shall, upon request, examine the grain, and determine what grade or dockage the samples of grain are entitled to under the inspection rules. Before the results of the inspection are released to the person requesting the inspection, the person shall pay the required fee. The fee shall be the same as that required for similar services rendered by the grain inspection program.

Sec. 57. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 232.24, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

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Subdivision 1. **Schedule of inspection examination.** A licensee under sections 232.20 to 232.25 is subject to two <u>audits examinations</u> annually conducted by the commissioner or the agricultural marketing service of the United States Department of Agriculture. The commissioner may, by rule, authorize one <u>audit examination</u> to be conducted by a qualified nongovernmental unit.

Sec. 58. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 232.24, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Financial reports.** A licensee under sections 232.20 to 232.25 <u>upon request</u> must provide to the commissioner a copy of the financial reports of an audit conducted by a qualified nongovernmental unit containing information the commissioner requires.

Sec. 59. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 239.092, is amended to read:

239.092 SALE FROM BULK.

- (a) Bulk sales of commodities, when the buyer and seller are not both present to witness the measurement, must be accompanied by a delivery ticket containing the following information:
 - (1) the name and address of the person who weighed or measured the commodity;
- 31.16 (2) the date delivered;

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- 31.17 (3) the quantity delivered;
- 31.18 (4) the count of individually wrapped packages delivered, if more than one is included in the quantity delivered;
 - (5) the quantity on which the price is based, if different than the quantity delivered; and
 - (6) the identity of the commodity in the most descriptive terms commercially practicable, including representations of quality made in connection with the sale.
 - (b) This section is not intended to conflict with the bulk sale requirements of the Department of Agriculture. If a conflict occurs, the law and rules of the Department of Agriculture govern.
 - (c) Firewood sold or distributed across state boundaries or more than 100 miles from its origin in this state must include delivery ticket information regarding the harvest locations of the wood by county or counties and state.
- 31.30 (d) Paragraph (c) may be enforced using the authority granted in this chapter or section 18J.05 or 84D.13.
- Sec. 60. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 239.093, is amended to read:

239.093 INFORMATION REQUIRED WITH PACKAGE.

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	(a) A package offered, exposed, o	or held for	sale must be	ear a clear	and conspicuou
dec	elaration of:				

- (1) the identity of the commodity in the package, unless the commodity can be easily identified through the wrapper or container;
 - (2) the net quantity in terms of weight, measure, or count;
- (3) the name and address of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor, if the packages were not produced on the premises where they are offered, exposed, or held for sale; and
- (4) the unit price, if the packages are part of a lot containing random weight packages of the same commodity.
- 32.10 (b) This section is not intended to conflict with the packaging requirements of the
 32.11 Department of Agriculture. If a conflict occurs, the laws and rules of the Department of
 32.12 Agriculture govern.
- 32.13 (c) Firewood sold or distributed across state boundaries or more than 100 miles from its origin in this state must include information regarding the harvest locations of the wood by county or counties and state on each label or wrapper.
- 32.16 (d) Paragraph (c) may be enforced using the authority granted in this chapter or section 18J.05 or 84D.13.
- Sec. 61. Laws 2011, chapter 14, section 6, is amended by adding an effective date to read:
- 32.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from April 16, 2011.
- 32.21 Sec. 62. **REPEALER.**

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- 32.22 (a) Minnesota Statutes 2010, sections 17B.01; 17B.02; 17B.03; 17B.04; 17B.041;
- 32.23 <u>17B.0451</u>; 17B.048; 17B.05; 17B.06; 17B.07; 17B.10; 17B.11; 17B.12; 17B.13; 17B.14;
- 32.24 <u>17B.15</u>, subdivisions 1 and 3; 17B.16; 17B.17; 17B.18; 17B.20; 17B.22, subdivisions 1
- and 2; 17B.28; 17B.29; 27.19, subdivisions 2 and 3; 27.20; 223.16, subdivision 7; 223.18;
- 32.26 232.21, subdivision 4; 232.24, subdivision 3; 232.25; 233.01; 233.015; 233.017; 233.02;
- 233.03; 233.04; 233.05; 233.06; 233.07; 233.08; 233.09; 233.10; 233.11; 233.12; 233.22;
- 32.28 233.23; 233.24; 233.33; 234.01; 234.03; 234.04; 234.05; 234.06; 234.08; 234.09; 234.10;
- 32.29 234.11; 234.12; 234.13; 234.14; 234.15; 234.16; 234.17; 234.18; 234.19; 234.20; 234.21;
- 32.30 234.22; 234.23; 234.24; 234.25; 234.27; 235.01; 235.02; 235.04; 235.05; 235.06; 235.07;
- 32.31 235.08; 235.09; 235.10; 235.13; 235.18; 236.01; 236.02; 236.03; 236.04; 236.05; 236.06;
- 32.32 236.07; 236.08; 236.09; 395.14; 395.15; 395.16; 395.17; 395.18; 395.19; 395.20; 395.21;
- 32.33 <u>395.22</u>; 395.23; and 395.24, are repealed.

Sec. 62. 32

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33.1 (b) Minnesota Rules, parts 1505.0780; 1505.0810; 1511.0100; 1511.0110;

1511.0120; 1511.0130; 1511.0140; 1511.0150; 1511.0160; 1511.0170; 1562.0100,

subparts 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25;

1562.0200; 1562.0400; 1562.0700; 1562.0900; 1562.1300; and 1562.1800, are repealed.

Sec. 62. 33