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State of Minnesota HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. **3668**

02/21/2022

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Higher Education Finance and Policy

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to higher education; appropriating money for a weather resilience program
- 1.3 in the University of Minnesota Extension Service.
- 1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.5 Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION**
- 1.6 **SERVICE WEATHER RESILIENCE PROGRAM.**
- 1.7 (a) \$..... in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the general fund to the Board of Regents
- 1.8 of the University of Minnesota for a program in the University of Minnesota Extension
- 1.9 Service that will enhance the capacity of the state's farmers and communities to plan for
- 1.10 and adapt to meteorologic change. This is a onetime appropriation.
- 1.11 (b) This appropriation may be used to support existing extension service staff members
- 1.12 and to hire additional staff members for a program with broad geographic reach throughout
- 1.13 the state to enhance the capacity of the state's agricultural sector, land and resource managers,
- 1.14 and communities to plan for and adapt to meteorologic change, including the increased
- 1.15 frequency of extreme weather events like droughts and flooding. The program shall:
- 1.16 (1) identify, develop, implement, and evaluate educational programs that increase the
- 1.17 capacity of Minnesota's agricultural producers and communities to adapt and be resilient
- 1.18 to projected physical changes in temperature, precipitation, and other meteorologic parameters
- 1.19 that affect lands, horticulture, pests, and wildlife in ways that present challenges to the state's
- 1.20 agricultural sector and the communities that depend on it; and
- 1.21 (2) communicate and interpret the latest research on critical meteorologic trends and the
- 1.22 science behind them to assist extension educators throughout the state to transfer to actors

- 2.1 at the local level the technical information on water resource management, agriculture and
- 2.2 forestry, engineering and infrastructure design, and individual and community health that
- 2.3 is necessary for the development of strategies to mitigate the effects of meteorologic change.