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State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

H. F. No. **1630**

03/20/2013 Authored by Faust and Hamilton

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to agriculture finance; allocating appropriations for the agricultural  
1.3 growth, research, and innovation program for fiscal years 2014 and 2015;  
1.4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 41A.12, subdivision 3.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 41A.12, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 3. **Oversight.** (a) The commissioner, in consultation with the chairs and  
1.8 ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees with  
1.9 jurisdiction over agriculture finance, must allocate available funds among eligible uses,  
1.10 develop competitive eligibility criteria, and award funds on a needs basis.

1.11 (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 the commissioner  
1.12 must allocate appropriated funds as follows:

1.13 (1) five percent for cost-sharing grants that facilitate farm-to-school food connections;

1.14 (2) 25 percent for livestock investment grants;

1.15 (3) 45 percent for agricultural business development grants that expand production,  
1.16 processing, and marketing of agricultural products;

1.17 (4) seven percent for biofuel and renewable energy grants recommended by the  
1.18 NextGen Energy Board;

1.19 (5) five percent for a grant to the Minnesota Agriculture Education Leadership  
1.20 Council for support of agriculture education programs including 4-H, FFA, and the  
1.21 Minnesota Agriculture and Rural Leadership Program;

1.22 (6) three percent for farm business management tuition grants awarded by the  
1.23 Minnesota Agriculture Education Leadership Council; and

1.24 (7) ten percent for competitive research grants to improve traditional crops.