

17.055 EMERGING FARMERS.

Subdivision 1. **Emerging farmer working group.** To advise the commissioner and legislature regarding the development and implementation of programs and initiatives that support emerging farmers in this state, the commissioner must periodically convene a working group consisting, to the extent possible, of persons who are, and organizations that represent, farmers or aspiring farmers who are women, veterans, persons with disabilities, American Indian or Alaskan Natives, members of a community of color, young, and urban, and any other emerging farmers as determined by the commissioner. No later than January 15 each year, the commissioner must update the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture regarding the working group's activities and recommendations.

Subd. 1a. **Emerging farmer account.** An emerging farmer account is established in the agricultural fund. The account consists of money appropriated by law and any other money donated, allotted, transferred, or otherwise provided to the account. Money in the account, including interest, is appropriated to the commissioner for the purposes of this section and must be used to further the objectives of the emerging farmer working group.

Subd. 2. **Expiration.** This section expires August 1, 2025.

History: 2020 c 89 art 4 s 2; 1Sp2021 c 3 art 1 s 5