

A bill for an act

relating to agriculture; appropriating money for clean water activities.

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

Section 1. **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.**

\$3,075,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$5,850,000 in fiscal year 2011 are appropriated from the clean water fund to the commissioner of agriculture to be spent as follows:

(1) \$325,000 the first year and \$350,000 the second year are to increase monitoring for pesticides and pesticide degradates in surface water and groundwater and to use data collected to assess pesticide use practices.

(2) \$375,000 the first year and \$750,000 the second year are to increase drinking water protection from agricultural chemicals, primarily nitrates.

(3) \$875,000 the first year and \$1,750,000 the second year are for research, pilot projects, and technical assistance related to ways agricultural practices can contribute to restoring impaired waters.

(4) \$1,500,000 the first year and \$3,000,000 the second year are for the agricultural best management practices loan program. At least \$1,450,000 the first year and at least \$2,900,000 the second year are for transfer to the agricultural best management practices loan account created pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 17.117, subdivision 5a, and are available for pass-through to local governments and lenders for low-interest loans.