

State of Minnesota

H. F. No. **1630**

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to agriculture; establishing a pilot program to provide grants to prevent

1.3 wolf-livestock conflict; appropriating money.

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

1.5 Section 1. **WOLF-LIVESTOCK CONFLICT PREVENTION PILOT PROGRAM.**

1.6 (a) The commissioner of agriculture may award grants to livestock producers to prevent

1.7 wolf-livestock conflicts. Livestock producers located in Minnesota are eligible to apply for

1.8 reimbursement for the cost of practices to prevent wolf-livestock conflicts. The commissioner

1.9 may establish a cap on the amount a recipient is eligible to receive annually.

1.10 (b) To be eligible for a grant under this section, a livestock producer must raise livestock

1.11 within Minnesota's wolf range or on property determined by the commissioner to be affected

1.12 by wolf-livestock conflicts.

1.13 (c) Eligible wolf-livestock conflict prevention activities include but are not limited to:

1.14 (1) the purchase of guard animals;

1.15 (2) payment of veterinary costs for guard animals;

1.16 (3) the installation of wolf barriers, which may include pens, fladry, and fencing necessary

1.17 to protect livestock;

1.18 (4) the installation of wolf-deterring lights and alarms; and

1.19 (5) the installation of calving or lambing shelters.

1.20 (d) Eligible grant recipients must:

- 2.1 (1) make a good faith effort to avoid wolf-livestock conflicts;
- 2.2 (2) make a good faith effort to care for guard animals paid for under this section;
- 2.3 (3) retain proper documentation of expenses;
- 2.4 (4) report annually to the commissioner on the effectiveness of the nonlethal methods
- 2.5 employed; and
- 2.6 (5) allow follow-up evaluation and monitoring by the commissioner.
- 2.7 (e) Grant recipients shall continue to be eligible for depredation payments under
- 2.8 Minnesota Statutes, section 3.737.
- 2.9 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**
- 2.10 \$200,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$200,000 in fiscal year 2021 are appropriated from the
- 2.11 general fund to the commissioner of agriculture for wolf-livestock conflict prevention grants
- 2.12 under section 1.