

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-SECOND SESSION

S.F. No. 1329

(SENATE AUTHORS: EKEN and Murphy)

| DATE | D-PG | OFFICIAL STATUS |
|------------|------|--|
| 02/22/2021 | 493 | Introduction and first reading Referred to Agriculture and Rural Development Finance and Policy |

1.1

A bill for an act

1.2

relating to agriculture; extending the mediation period for certain farmer-lender

1.3

mediations.

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

1.5

Section 1. **FARMER-LENDER MEDIATION EXTENSIONS.**

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(a) The legislature finds that due to the emergency created by the COVID-19 pandemic,

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the time period for the Farmer-Lender Mediation Act must be temporarily extended to

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ensure an orderly process with state assistance to adjust agricultural indebtedness to preserve

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the general welfare and fiscal integrity of the state.

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(b) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 583.26, subdivision 4, a creditor may

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not begin or continue proceedings to enforce a debt subject to the Farmer-Lender Mediation

1.12

Act against agricultural property of the debtor under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 580 or

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581, or Minnesota Statutes, sections 336.9-601 to 336.9-624, to terminate a contract for

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deed to purchase agricultural property under Minnesota Statutes, section 559.21, or to

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garnish, levy on, execute on, seize, or attach agricultural property until 150 days after the

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date the debtor files a mediation request with the director of the Minnesota Extension Service.

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(c) Any mediation proceeding being conducted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, chapter

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583, and that is in progress on the effective date of this section is allowed an additional 60

1.19

days from the date the debtor filed a mediation request with the director of the Minnesota

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Extension Service before a creditor can proceed to enforce a debt against the debtor's

1.21

agricultural property.

- 2.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and
- 2.2 applies to (1) mediation proceedings in progress on the effective date of this section, and
- 2.3 (2) mediation proceedings beginning after the effective date of this section if the mediation
- 2.4 request is filed before, 2021.