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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 4471

02/29/2024 Authored by Sencer-Mura, Her, Pérez-Vega and Hanson, J., The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Agriculture Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to agriculture; appropriating money for a grant to the Good Acre for the
1.3 Local Emergency Assistance Farmer Fund program to assist emerging farmers.

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

1.5 Section 1. THE GOOD ACRE'S LEAFF PROGRAM; APPROPRIATION.

1.6 (a) \$500,000 in fiscal year 2025 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner
1.7 of agriculture for a grant to The Good Acre for the Local Emergency Assistance Farmer
1.8 Fund (LEAFF) program, a strategic wholesale readiness program for emerging farmers in
1.9 Minnesota, for the purposes of: (1) providing emerging farmers with technical assistance
1.10 related to food safety, delivery, quality standards, and packaging requirements; (2) supporting
1.11 the expansion of the LEAFF program to areas of greater Minnesota and increasing emerging
1.12 farmers' access to the program; and (3) purchasing produce from emerging farmers in the
1.13 program. The base for this appropriation is \$500,000 in fiscal year 2026 and thereafter.

1.14 (b) The LEAFF program must donate produce purchased through the program to hunger
1.15 relief partners, including but not limited to The Food Group.