

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETIETH SESSION**

S.F. No. 1453

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DATE
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OFFICIAL STATUS
Introduction and first reading
Referred to Agriculture, Rural Development, and Housing Finance

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 may receive annually.

1.10 (b) To be eligible for the 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) veterinary costs for guard animals;

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

1.17 (4) the installation of wolf-detering lights and alarms; and

1.18 (5) calving or lambing shelters.

1.19 (d) Eligible grant recipients must:

1.20 (1) make a good-faith effort to avoid wolf-livestock conflicts;

- 2.1 (2) make a good-faith effort to care for guard animals paid for under this section;
- 2.2 (3) retain proper documentation of expenses;
- 2.3 (4) report annually to the commissioner on the effectiveness of the nonlethal methods
- 2.4 employed; and
- 2.5 (5) allow follow-up evaluation and monitoring by the commissioner.
- 2.6 (e) Grant recipients shall continue to be eligible for depredation payments under
- 2.7 Minnesota Statutes, section 3.737.

2.8 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

- 2.9 \$200,000 in fiscal year 2018 and \$200,000 in fiscal year 2019 are appropriated from the
- 2.10 general fund to the commissioner of agriculture for wolf-livestock conflict prevention grants
- 2.11 under section 1.