ARTICLE 2

AGRICULTURE STATUTORY CHANGES

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 17.041, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Establishment; appropriation. An agricultural emergency account is established in the agricultural fund. Money in the account, including interest, is appropriated to the commissioner for emergency preparedness and response activities for agricultural emergencies affecting producers of livestock, poultry, crops, or other agricultural products.

Eligible uses include agency costs directly attributed to preparing for and responding to agricultural emergencies and purchasing necessary equipment and reimbursing costs incurred by local units of government that are not eligible for reimbursement from other sources.

Subd. 2. Grant program. (a) The commissioner may establish and implement a grant program to help farmers finance new cooperatives that organize for purposes of operating an agricultural product processing facility or marketing an agricultural product or agricultural service.

(b) To be eligible for this program, a grantee must:

(1) be a cooperative organized under chapter 308A;

(2) certify that all control and equity in the cooperative is from farmers, family farm partnerships, family farm limited liability companies, or family farm corporations as defined in section 500.24, subdivision 2, who are actively engaged in agricultural commodity production;

(3) be operated primarily to process agricultural commodities or market agricultural products or services produced in Minnesota; and

(4) receive agricultural commodities produced primarily by shareholders or members of the cooperative.

(c) The commissioner may receive applications and make grants up to $50,000 to eligible grantees for feasibility, marketing analysis, assistance with organizational development, financing and managing new cooperatives, product development, development of business plans, and predesign of facilities including site analysis, and development of bid.

ARTICLE 3

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 17.101, subdivision 5; and

(2) "agricultural service" means an action made under the direction of a farmer that provides value to another entity. Agricultural service includes grazing to manage vegetation.

Subd. 2. Grant program. (a) The commissioner may establish and implement a grant program to help farmers finance new cooperatives that organize for purposes of operating an agricultural product processing facility or marketing an agricultural product or agricultural service.

(b) To be eligible for this program, a grantee must:

(1) be a cooperative organized under chapter 308A;

(2) certify that all control and equity in the cooperative is from farmers, family farm partnerships, family farm limited liability companies, or family farm corporations as defined in section 500.24, subdivision 2, who are actively engaged in agricultural commodity production;

(3) be operated primarily to process agricultural commodities or market agricultural products or services produced in Minnesota; and

(4) receive agricultural commodities produced primarily by shareholders or members of the cooperative.

(c) The commissioner may receive applications and make grants up to $50,000 to eligible
ggrantees for feasibility, marketing analysis, assistance with organizational development, financing and managing new cooperatives, product development, development of business plans, and predesign of facilities including site analysis, and development of bid.
specifications, preliminary blueprints and schematics, and completion of purchase agreements and other necessary legal documents.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 17.117, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. Allocation rescission. (a) Continued availability of allocations granted to a local government unit is contingent upon the commissioner's approval of the local government unit's annual report. The commissioner shall review this annual report to ensure that the past and future uses of the funds are consistent with the comprehensive water management plan, other local planning documents, the requirements of the funding source, and compliance to program requirements. If the commissioner concludes the past or intended uses of the money are not consistent with these requirements, the commissioner shall rescind all or part of the allocation awarded to a local government unit.

(b) The commissioner may rescind funds allocated to the local government unit that are not designated to committed projects or disbursed within one year from the date of the allocation agreement.

(c) An additional year to use the undisbursed portion of an allocation may be granted by the commissioner under extenuating circumstances. The commissioner may rescind uncommitted allocations.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 17.117, subdivision 9a, is amended to read:

Subd. 9a. Authority and responsibilities of local government units. (a) A local government unit that enters into an allocation agreement with the commissioner:

(1) is responsible for the local administration and implementation of the program in accordance with this section;

(2) may submit applications for allocations to the commissioner;

(3) shall identify, develop, determine eligibility, define and approve projects, designate maximum loan amounts for projects, and certify completion of projects implemented under this program. In areas where no local government unit has applied for funds under this program, the commissioner may appoint a local government unit to review and certify projects or the commissioner may assume the authority and responsibility of the local government unit;

(4) shall certify as eligible only projects that are within its geographic jurisdiction or within the geographic area identified in its local comprehensive water management plans or other local planning documents;

(5) may require withholding by the local lender of all or a portion of the loan to the borrower until satisfactory completion of all required components of a certified project;

An additional year to use the undisbursed portion of an allocation may be granted by the commissioner under extenuating circumstances. The commissioner may rescind uncommitted allocations.

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(b) The commissioner may rescind funds allocated to the local government unit that are not designated to committed projects or disbursed within one year from the date of the allocation agreement.

(c) An additional year to use the undisbursed portion of an allocation may be granted by the commissioner under extenuating circumstances. The commissioner may rescind uncommitted allocations.

Subd. 9a. Authority and responsibilities of local government units. (a) A local government unit that enters into an allocation agreement with the commissioner:

(1) is responsible for the local administration and implementation of the program in accordance with this section;

(2) may submit applications for allocations to the commissioner;

(3) shall identify, develop, determine eligibility, define and approve projects, designate maximum loan amounts for projects, and certify completion of projects implemented under this program. In areas where no local government unit has applied for funds under this program, the commissioner may appoint a local government unit to review and certify projects or the commissioner may assume the authority and responsibility of the local government unit;

(4) shall certify as eligible only projects that are within its geographic jurisdiction or within the geographic area identified in its local comprehensive water management plans or other local planning documents;

(5) may require withholding by the local lender of all or a portion of the loan to the borrower until satisfactory completion of all required components of a certified project;

of bid specifications, preliminary blueprints and schematics, and the completion of purchase agreements and other necessary legal documents.

(d) Grants must be matched dollar-for-dollar with other money or in-kind contributions.

(e) State funds must not be used for grants.
must identify which account is used to finance an approved project if the local
government unit has allocations from multiple accounts in the agricultural and environmental
revolving accounts;
(6) (6) shall report to the commissioner annually the past and intended uses of allocations
awarded; and
(7) (7) may request additional funds in excess of their allocation when funds are available
in the agricultural and environmental revolving accounts, as long as all other allocation
awards to the local government unit have been used or committed.
(b) If a local government unit withdraws from participation in this program, the local
government unit, or the commissioner in accordance with the priorities established under
subdivision 6a, may designate another local government unit that is eligible under subdivision
6 as the new local government unit responsible for local administration of this program.
This designated local government unit may accept responsibility and administration of
allocations awarded to the former responsible local government unit.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 17.117, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. Authority and responsibilities of local lenders. (a) Local lenders may enter
into lender agreements with the commissioner.
(b) Local lenders may enter into loan agreements with borrowers to finance eligible
projects under this section.
(6) The local lender shall notify the local government unit of the loan amount issued to
the borrower after the closing of each loan.
(6) Local lenders with local revolving loan accounts created before July 1, 2001,
may continue to retain and use those accounts in accordance with their lending agreements
for the full term of those agreements.
(6) Local lenders, including local government units designating themselves as the
local lender, may enter into participation agreements with other lenders.
(6) Local lenders may enter into contracts with other lenders for the limited purposes
of loan review, processing and servicing, or to enter into loan agreements with borrowers
to finance projects under this section. Other lenders entering into contracts with local lenders
under this section must meet the definition of local lender in subdivision 4, must comply
with all provisions of the lender agreement and this section, and must guarantee repayment
of the loan funds to the local lender.
(7) When required by the local government unit, a local lender must withhold all or
a portion of the loan disbursement for a project until notified by the local government unit
that the project has been satisfactorily completed.
(a) The local lender is responsible for repaying all funds provided by the commissioner to the local lender. (b) The local lender is responsible for collecting repayments from borrowers. If a borrower defaults on a loan issued by the local lender, it is the responsibility of the local lender to obtain repayment from the borrower. Default on the part of borrowers shall have no effect on the local lender's responsibility to repay its obligations to the commissioner whether or not the local lender fully recovers defaulted amounts from borrowers.

The local lender shall provide sufficient collateral or protection to the commissioner for the funds provided to the local lender. The commissioner must approve the collateral or protection provided.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 17.117, subdivision 11, is amended to read: Subd. 11. Loans issued to borrower. (a) Local lenders may issue loans only for projects that are approved and certified by the local government unit as meeting priority needs identified in a comprehensive water management plan or other local planning documents, are in compliance with accepted practices, standards, specifications, or criteria, and are eligible for financing under Environmental Protection Agency or other applicable guidelines. (b) The local lender may use any additional criteria considered necessary to determine the eligibility of borrowers for loans. (c) Local lenders shall set the terms and conditions of loans to borrowers, except that (1) no loan to a borrower may exceed $200,000; and (2) be in accordance with published fee schedules issued by the local lender; (3) not be based on participation program; and (4) be consistent with fees charged other similar types of loans offered by the local lender.

The local lender shall provide sufficient collateral or protection to the commissioner for the funds provided to the local lender. The commissioner must approve the collateral or protection provided.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 17.117, subdivision 11a, is amended to read: Subd. 11a. Eligible projects. (a) All projects that remediate or mitigate adverse environmental impacts are eligible if the project is eligible under an allocation agreement.

(f) The interest rate assessed to an outstanding loan balance by the local lender must not exceed three percent per year.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 17.117, subdivision 11a, is amended to read: Subd. 11a. Eligible projects. (a) All projects that remediate or mitigate adverse environmental impacts are eligible if the project is eligible under an allocation agreement.
A manure management project is eligible if the project remediates or mitigates impacts from facilities with less than 1,000 animal units as defined in Minnesota Rules, chapter 7020, and otherwise meets the requirements of this section.

A drinking water project is eligible if the project:

1. Remedies or mitigates the inadequate flow, adverse environmental impacts or presence of contaminants in private well privately owned water supplies that are used for drinking water by people or livestock, privately owned water service lines, or privately owned plumbing and fixtures;
2. Implements best management practices that are intended to achieve drinking water standards or adequate flow; and
3. Otherwise meets the requirements of this section.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 17.118, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Establishment. The commissioner may award a livestock investment grant to a person who raises livestock in this state equal to ten percent of the first $250,000 of qualifying expenditures, provided the person makes qualifying expenditures of at least $4,000. The commissioner may award multiple livestock investment grants to a person over the life of the program as long as the cumulative amount does not exceed $50,000.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 17.118, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Eligibility. (a) To be eligible for a livestock investment grant, a person must:
1. Be a resident of Minnesota or an entity specifically defined in section 500.24, subdivision 2, that is eligible to own farmland and operate a farm in this state under section 500.24;
2. Be the principal operator of the farm;
3. Hold a feedlot registration, if required; and
4. Apply to the commissioner on forms prescribed by the commissioner including a statement of the qualifying expenditures made during the qualifying period along with any proof or other documentation the commissioner may require.
(b) The $50,000 maximum grant applies at the entity level for partnerships, S corporations, C corporations, trusts, and estates as well as at the individual level. In the case of married individuals, the grant is limited to $50,000 for a married couple.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 17.118, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. Process. The commissioner, in consultation with the chairs and ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees with jurisdiction over agriculture finance, shall develop competitive eligibility criteria and may allocate grants on
a needs basis. The commissioner shall place any eligible unfunded applications on a waiting
list and, notwithstanding subdivision 2, paragraph (d), give them consideration during the
next fiscal year in which program funding is available. The commissioner shall notify in
writing any applicant who applies for a grant and is ineligible under the provisions of this
section as well as any applicant whose application is received or reviewed after the fiscal
year funding limit has been reached.

Sec. 11. [17.133] FARM DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE GRANTS.

Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have
the meanings given:

(b) "Eligible farmer" means an individual who at the time that the grant is awarded:

(1) is a resident of Minnesota who intends to acquire farmland located within the state
and provide the majority of the day-to-day physical labor and management of the farm;

(2) grosses no more than $250,000 per year from the sale of farm products; and

(3) has not, and whose spouse has not, at any time had a direct or indirect ownership
interest in farmland.

(c) "Farm down payment" means an initial, partial payment required by a lender or seller
to purchase farmland.

Subd. 2. Grants. The commissioner must award farm down payment assistance grants
of up to $15,000 per eligible farmer. An eligible farmer must match the grant with at least
an equivalent amount of other funding. An eligible farmer must commit to own and farm
the land purchased with assistance provided under this section for at least five years. For
each year that a grant recipient does not own and farm the land during the five-year period,
the grant recipient must pay a penalty to the commissioner equal to 20 percent of the grant
amount.

Sec. 12. [17.994] SOIL HEALTH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Subdivision 1. Establishment. The soil health financial assistance program is established
to promote soil health practices that mitigate climate change impacts, improve water quality,
and provide related public benefits.

Subd. 2. Financial assistance. (a) The commissioner may provide financial assistance
to local governments, private sector providers, or farmers to cover the costs of specialized
equipment and technology necessary to implement and sustain soil health practices, including
equipment technology purchases or subscriptions, services to landowners, and other
equipment purchases or financial assistance that the commissioner considers appropriate
to promote healthy soil.

Subd. 1. Establishment. The commissioner of agriculture must establish and
administer a grant program to support healthy soil management practices in accordance
with this section.

Subd. 2. State healthy soil management plan. The commissioner must develop a
healthy soil management plan in consultation with the University of Minnesota, the United
States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Board of
Water and Soil Resources, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and nongovernmental
environmental and agricultural organizations. By December 31, 2023, and every two years
thereafter, the commissioner must report the plan to the governor and to the chairs and
ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees and
The plan must include all of the following:

1. An assessment of the current state of healthy soil management practices statewide.
2. A statewide five- and ten-year goal for healthy soil management practice implementation, denominated in acres.
3. An explanation of how the commissioner will make grant award decisions based on the eligibility categories described in subdivision 3.
4. An explanation of how the commissioner will ensure a geographically fair distribution of funding across a broad group of crop types, soil management practices, and farm sizes.
5. A strategy for leveraging other public and private sources of money to expand healthy soil management practices in the state.
6. A summary of the operations of the program during the previous two-year period, including a summary of state, federal, and private money spent, the total number of projects and acres, and an estimate of carbon sequestered or carbon emissions reduced during that period; and
7. Any other matter that the commissioner deems relevant.

Eligible projects. The commissioner may award a grant under this section for any project on agricultural land in Minnesota that will:

1. Increase the quantity of organic carbon in soil through practices, including but not limited to reduced tillage, cover cropping, manure management, precision agriculture, crop rotations, and changes in grazing management;
2. Integrate perennial vegetation into the management of agricultural lands;
3. Reduce nitrous oxide and methane emissions through changes to livestock, soil management, or nutrient optimization;
4. Increase the usage of precision agricultural practices;
5. Enable the development of site-specific management plans; or
6. Enable the purchase of equipment, technology, subscriptions, technical assistance, seeds, seedlings, or amendments that will further any of the purposes in clauses (1) to (5).

Grant eligibility. Any land owner or lessee may apply for a grant under this section.

Funding limitations. Every appropriation for the agriculture best management practices grant program is subject to the following limitations:
Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 18B.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 20b. Plastic. "Plastic" means an organic or petroleum derivative synthetic or a semisynthetic organic solid that is moldable, and to which additives or other substances may have been added. Plastic does not mean natural polymers that have not been chemically modified.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 18B.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:


Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 18B.051, is amended to read:

18B.051 POLLINATOR HABITAT AND RESEARCH ACCOUNT.

Subdivision 1. Account established. A pollinator habitat and research account is established in the agricultural fund. Money in the account, including interest, is appropriated to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for pollinator research and outreach including, but not limited to:

1. pesticide, parasite, and climate disruption impacts;
2. science-based best practices; and
3. the identification and establishment of habitat beneficial to pollinators.

Subd. 2. Expiration. This section expires July 1, 2025.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 18B.07, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 9. Plastic-coated pesticide prohibited. A person may not sell, offer for sale, use, or apply a plastic-coated pesticide.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025, for nonagricultural pesticide, and January 1, 2026, for agricultural pesticide.

Subd. 26a. Plastic. "Plastic" has the meaning given in section 18B.01, subdivision 20b.
Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 18C.005, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:


Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 18C.201, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 8. Plastic-coated fertilizer prohibited. A person may not sell, offer for sale, use, or apply a plastic-coated fertilizer.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025, for nonagricultural fertilizer, and January 1, 2026, for agricultural fertilizer.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 18E.04, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. Reimbursement payments. (a) The board shall pay a person that is eligible for reimbursement or payment under subdivisions 1, 2, and 3 from the agricultural chemical response and reimbursement account for 80 percent of the total reasonable and necessary corrective action costs greater than $1,000 and less than or equal to $425,000 in fiscal years 2023 and 2024, $500,000 in fiscal years 2025 and 2026, and $575,000 in fiscal year 2027 and each following year.

(b) A reimbursement or payment may not be made until the board has determined that the costs are reasonable and are for a reimbursement of the costs that were actually incurred.

(c) The board may make periodic payments or reimbursements as corrective action costs are incurred upon receipt of invoices for the corrective action costs.

(d) Money in the agricultural chemical response and reimbursement account is appropriated to the commissioner to make payments and reimbursements directed by the board under this subdivision.

(e) The board may not make reimbursement greater than the maximum allowed under paragraph (a) for all incidents on a single site which:

(1) were not reported at the time of release but were discovered and reported after July 1, 1989; and

(2) may have occurred prior to July 1, 1989, as determined by the commissioner.

(f) The board may only reimburse an eligible person for separate incidents within a single site if the commissioner determines that each incident is completely separate and distinct in respect of location within the single site or time of occurrence.
Except for an emergency incident, the board may not reimburse or pay for more than 60 percent of the corrective action costs of an eligible person or for an incident within five years of a previous incident at a single site resulting from a site recontamination.

The deduction of $1,000 and 20 percent from the $350,000 remuneration payment amounts described in subdivision (a) may be waived by the board if the incident took place on or after August 18, 2007, and was caused by flooding associated with Presidential Declaration of Major Disaster DR-1717.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2022.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 21.81, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5a. **Coated agricultural seed.** "Coated agricultural seed" means any seed unit covered with a coating material.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 21.86, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Miscellaneous violations.** No person may:

(a) detach, alter, deface, or destroy any label required in sections 21.82 and 21.83, alter or substitute seed in a manner that may defeat the purposes of sections 21.82 and 21.83, or alter or falsify any seed tests, laboratory reports, records, or other documents to create a misleading impression as to kind, variety, history, quality, or origin of the seed;

(b) hinder or obstruct in any way any authorized person in the performance of duties under sections 21.80 to 21.92;

(c) fail to comply with a "stop sale" order or to move or otherwise handle or dispose of any lot of seed held under a stop sale order or attached tags, except with express permission of the enforcing officer for the purpose specified;

(d) use the word "type" in any labeling in connection with the name of any agricultural seed variety;

(e) use the word "trace" as a substitute for any statement which is required;

(f) plant any agricultural seed which the person knows contains weed seeds or noxious weed seeds in excess of the limits for that seed;

(g) advertise or sell seed containing patented, protected, or proprietary varieties used without permission of the patent or certificate holder of the intellectual property associated with the variety of seeds;

(h) use or sell as food, feed, oil, or ethanol feedstock any seed treated with neonicotinoid pesticide.
Sec. 22. [21.915] PESTICIDE TREATED SEED USE AND DISPOSAL; CONSUMER GUIDANCE REQUIRED.
(a) The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, must develop and maintain consumer guidance regarding the proper use and disposal of seed treated with neonicotinoid pesticide.
(b) A person selling seed treated with neonicotinoid pesticide at retail must post in a conspicuous location the guidance developed by the commissioner under paragraph (a).

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 28A.08, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:
Subd. 4. Food handler license account; appropriation. A food handler license account is established in the agricultural fund. The commissioner must deposit fees and penalties paid under subdivision 3 in this account. Money in the account, including interest, is appropriated to the commissioner for expenses relating to licensing and inspecting food handlers under chapters 28 to 34A or rules adopted under one of those chapters.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 28A.09, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:
Subd. 3. Vending machine inspection account; appropriation. A vending machine inspection account is established in the agricultural fund. The commissioner must deposit fees paid under subdivision 1 in this account. Money in the account, including interest, is appropriated to the commissioner for expenses relating to identifying and inspecting food vending machines under chapters 28 to 34A or rules adopted under one of those chapters.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 28A.10, is amended to read:
28A.10 POSTING OF LICENSE; RULES.
All such licenses shall be issued for a period of one year and shall be posted or displayed in a conspicuous place at the place of business so licensed. Except as provided in sections 28A.08, subdivision 4; 28A.09, subdivision 3; 29.22, subdivision 4; and 31.39, all such license fees and penalties collected by the commissioner shall be deposited into the state treasury and credited to the general fund. The commissioner may adopt such rules in conformity with law as the commissioner deems necessary to effectively and efficiently carry out the provisions of sections 28A.01 to 28A.16.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 28A.21, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
Subd. 2. Membership. (a) The Food Safety and Defense Task Force consists of:
(1) the commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's designee;
(2) the commissioner of health or the commissioner's designee;
(3) a representative of the United States Food and Drug Administration;
(4) a representative of the United States Department of Agriculture;

(5) a representative of the Agricultural Utilization Research Institute;

(6) one member of the Minnesota Grocers Association;

(7) one member from the University of Minnesota knowledgeable in food and food safety issues; and

(8) nine members appointed by the governor who are interested in food and food safety, of whom:

   (i) two persons are health or food professionals;

   (ii) one person represents a statewide general farm organization;

   (iii) one person represents a local food inspection agency;

   (iv) one person represents a food-oriented consumer group;

   (v) one person represents a Minnesota-based manufacturer of microbial detection equipment and remediation products; and

   (vi) one person is knowledgeable in cybersecurity.

(b) Members shall serve without compensation. Members appointed by the governor shall serve four-year terms.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 35.155, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. Mandatory registration.

(a) A person may not possess live Cervidae in Minnesota unless the person is registered with the Board of Animal Health and meets all the requirements for farmed Cervidae under this section. Cervidae possessed in violation of this subdivision may be seized and destroyed by the commissioner of natural resources.

(b) A person whose registration is revoked by the board is ineligible for future registration under this section unless the board determines that the person has undertaken measures that make future escapes extremely unlikely.

(c) The board must not approve a new registration under this subdivision for farmed white-tailed deer. This paragraph does not prohibit a person holding a valid registration to possess farmed white-tailed deer from selling or transferring the person's registration to a family member who resides in this state and is related to the person within the third degree of kindred according to the rules of civil law. A registration to possess farmed white-tailed deer may be sold or transferred only once under this paragraph. Before the board approves a sale or transfer under this paragraph, the board must verify that the farmed white-tailed deer herd is free from chronic wasting disease and the person or eligible family member must pay a one-time transfer fee of $500 to the board.
EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 35.155, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

12. Importation. If there is an ante-mortem test for chronic wasting disease validated by the United States Department of Agriculture, a person may only import white-tailed deer that have tested negative immediately prior to importation. A person must not import Cervidae into the state from a herd that is infected or exposed to chronic wasting disease or from a known chronic wasting disease endemic area, as determined by the board. A person may import Cervidae into the state only from a herd that is not in a known chronic wasting disease endemic area, as determined by the board, and the herd has been subject to a state or provincial approved chronic wasting disease monitoring program for at least three years. Cervidae imported in violation of this section may be seized and destroyed by the commissioner of natural resources.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 35.155, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

14. Concurrent authority; regulating farmed white-tailed deer. (a) The commissioner of natural resources and, in conjunction with the Board of Animal Health, possess concurrent authority to regulate farmed white-tailed deer under this section, sections 35.92 to 35.96, and any administrative rules adopted pursuant to this section or sections 35.92 to 35.96. This does not confer to the commissioner any additional authorities under chapter 35; other than those set forth in sections 35.155 and 35.92 to 35.96; and any administrative rules adopted thereto; Neither entity may issue an emergency order restricting the movement of farmed white-tailed deer without the concurrence of the other.

(b) By February 1, 2022, the commissioner of natural resources, in conjunction with the Board of Animal Health, must submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the environment and natural resources and agriculture on the implementation of the concurrent authority under this section. The report must include:

1. a summary of how the agencies worked together under this section, including identification of any challenges;

2. an assessment of ongoing challenges to managing chronic wasting disease in the state; and

3. recommendations for statutory and programmatic changes to help the state better manage the disease.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.
Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 40A.18, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Allowed commercial and industrial operations. (a) Commercial and industrial operations are not allowed on land within an agricultural preserve except:

(1) small on-farm commercial or industrial operations normally associated with and important to farming in the agricultural preserve area;

(2) storage use of existing farm buildings that does not disrupt the integrity of the agricultural preserve;

(3) small commercial use of existing farm buildings for trades not disruptive to the integrity of the agricultural preserve such as a carpentry shop, small scale mechanics shop, and similar activities that a farm operator might conduct; and

(4) wireless communication installations and related equipment and structure capable of providing technology potentially beneficial to farming activities. A property owner who installs wireless communication equipment does not violate a covenant made prior to January 1, 2018, under section 40A.10, subdivision 1; and

(5) solar energy generating systems with an output capacity of one megawatt or less.

(b) For purposes of paragraph (a), clauses (2) and (3), “existing” means existing on August 1, 1989.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 41A.16, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Eligibility. (a) A facility eligible for payment under this section must source from Minnesota at least 80 percent of the biomass used to produce an advanced biofuel, except that, if a facility is sited 50 miles or less from the state border, biomass used to produce an advanced biofuel may be sourced from outside of Minnesota, but only if at least 80 percent of the biomass is sourced from within a 100-mile radius of the facility or from within Minnesota. The facility must be located in Minnesota, must begin production at a specific location by December 31, 2022, and must not begin operating above 23,750 MMBtu of quarterly advanced biofuel production before July 1, 2015. Eligible facilities include existing companies and facilities that are adding advanced biofuel production capacity, or retrofitting existing capacity, as well as new companies and facilities. Production of conventional corn ethanol and conventional biodiesel is not eligible. Eligible advanced biofuel facilities must produce at least 1,500 MMBtu of advanced biofuel quarterly.

(b) No payments shall be made for advanced biofuel production that occurs after June 30, 2035, for those eligible biofuel producers under paragraph (a), provided that an eligible producer may continue to receive payments equal to the difference between the claims for payment filed under subdivision 6 and the pro rata amount received as of June 30, 2035, until the full amounts of the original claims are paid.
(c) An eligible producer of advanced biofuel shall not transfer the producer's eligibility for payments under this section to an advanced biofuel facility at a different location.

(d) A producer that ceases production for any reason is ineligible to receive payments under this section until the producer resumes production.

(e) Renewable chemical production for which payment has been received under section 41A.17, and biomass thermal production for which payment has been received under section 41A.18, are not eligible for payment under this section.

(f) Biobutanol is eligible under this section.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2020, and applies to claims filed after January 1, 2020.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 41A.16, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Payment amounts; limits. (a) The commissioner shall make payments to eligible producers of advanced biofuel. The amount of the payment for each eligible producer's annual production is $2.1053 per MMbtu for advanced biofuel production from cellulosic biomass; and $1.053 per MMbtu for advanced biofuel production from sugar, starch, oil, or animal fat at a specific location for ten years after the start of production.

(b) Total payments under this section to an eligible biofuel producer in a fiscal year may not exceed the amount necessary for 2,850,000 MMbtu of biofuel production. Total payments under this section to all eligible biofuel producers in a fiscal year may not exceed the amount necessary for 17,100,000 MMbtu of biofuel production. If the total amount for which all producers are eligible in a quarter exceeds the amount available for payments, the commissioner shall make the payments on a pro rata basis. An eligible producer may reapply for payment of the difference between the claim for payment filed under subdivision 6 and the pro rata amount received:

(1) until the full amount of the original claim is paid; and

(2) subject to available money appropriated for the express purpose of paying claims not otherwise paid.

(c) For purposes of this section, an entity that holds a controlling interest in more than one advanced biofuel facility is considered a single eligible producer.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2020, and applies to claims filed after January 1, 2020.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 41A.17, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Eligibility. (a) A facility eligible for payment under this section must source from Minnesota at least 80 percent of the biomass used to produce a renewable chemical, except that, if a facility is sited 50 miles or less from the state border, biomass used to produce a renewable chemical may be sourced from outside of Minnesota, but only

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if at least 80 percent of the biomass is sourced from within a 100-mile radius of the facility or from within Minnesota. The facility must be located in Minnesota, must begin production at a specific location by June 30, 2025, and must not begin production of 250,000 pounds of chemicals quarterly before January 1, 2015. Eligible facilities include existing companies and facilities that are adding production capacity, or retrofitting existing capacity, as well as new companies and facilities. Eligible renewable chemical facilities must produce at least 250,000 pounds of renewable chemicals quarterly. Renewable chemicals produced through processes that are fully commercial before January 1, 2000, are not eligible.

(b) No payments shall be made for renewable chemical production that occurs after June 30, 2035, for those eligible renewable chemical producers under paragraph (a); provided that an eligible producer may continue to receive payments equal to the difference between the claims for payment filed under subdivision 5 and the pro rata amount received as of June 30, 2035, until the full amounts of the original claims are paid.

(c) An eligible producer of renewable chemicals shall not transfer the producer's eligibility for payments under this section to a renewable chemical facility at a different location.

(d) A producer that ceases production for any reason is ineligible to receive payments under this section until the producer resumes production.

(e) Advanced biofuel production for which payment has been received under section 41A.16, and biomass thermal production for which payment has been received under section 41A.18, are not eligible for payment under this section.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2020, and applies to claims filed after January 1, 2020.
43.16 a quarter exceeds the amount available for payments, the commissioner shall make the
43.17 payments on a pro rata basis. An eligible producer may reapply for payment of the difference
43.18 between the claim for payment filed under subdivision 5 and the pro rata amount received:
43.19 (1) until the full amount of the original claim is paid; and
43.20 (2) subject to available money appropriated for the express purpose of paying claims
43.21 not otherwise paid.
43.22 (d) An eligible facility may blend renewable chemicals with other chemicals that are
43.23 not renewable chemicals, but only the percentage attributable to renewable chemicals in
43.24 the blended product is eligible to receive payment.
43.25 (e) For purposes of this section, an entity that holds a controlling interest in more than
43.26 one renewable chemical production facility is considered a single eligible producer.
43.27 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2020, and
43.28 applies to claims filed after January 1, 2020.
43.29 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 41A.18, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
43.30 Subdivision 1. Eligibility. (a) A facility eligible for payment under this section must
43.31 source from Minnesota at least 80 percent of the biomass used for biomass thermal
43.32 production, except that, if a facility is sited 50 miles or less from the state border, biomass
43.33 used for biomass thermal production may be sourced from outside of Minnesota, but only
43.34 if at least 80 percent of the biomass is sourced from within a 100-mile radius of the facility,
43.35 or from within Minnesota: Biomass must be from agricultural or forestry sources. The
43.36 facility must be located in Minnesota; must have begun production at a specific location by
43.37 June 30, 2023 December 31, 2022; and must not begin before July 1, 2015. Eligible facilities
43.38 include existing companies and facilities that are adding production capacity, or retrofitting
43.39 existing capacity, as well as new companies and facilities. Eligible biomass thermal
43.40 production facilities must produce at least 250 MMbtu of biomass thermal quarterly.
43.41 (b) No payments shall be made for biomass thermal production that occurs after June
43.42 30, 2035, for those eligible biomass thermal producers under paragraph (a), provided that
43.43 an eligible producer may continue to receive payments equal to the difference between the
43.44 claims for payment filed under subdivision 5 and the pro rata amount received as of June
43.45 30, 2035; until the full amounts of the original claims are paid.
43.46 (c) An eligible producer of biomass thermal production shall not transfer the producer's
43.47 eligibility for payments under this section to a biomass thermal production facility at a
43.48 different location.
43.49 (d) A producer that ceases production for any reason is ineligible to receive payments
43.50 under this section until the producer resumes production.
(a) Biofuel production for which payment has been received under section 41A.16, and renewable chemical production for which payment has been received under section 41A.17, are not eligible for payment under this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2020, and applies to claims filed after January 1, 2020.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 41A.18, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Payment amounts; bonus; limits; blending. (a) The commissioner shall make payments to eligible producers of biomass thermal located in the state. The amount of the payment for each producer's annual production is $5.00 per MMBtu of biomass thermal production produced at a specific location for ten years after the start of production.

(b) An eligible facility producing biomass thermal using agricultural cellulosic biomass is eligible for a 20 percent bonus payment for each MMBtu produced from agricultural biomass that is derived from perennial crop or cover crop biomass.

(c) Total payments under this section to an eligible thermal producer in a fiscal year may not exceed the amount necessary for 30,000 MMBtu of thermal production. Total payments under this section to all eligible thermal producers in a fiscal year may not exceed the amount necessary for 150,000 MMBtu of total thermal production. If the total amount for which all producers are eligible in a quarter exceeds the amount available for payments, the commissioner shall make the payments on a pro rata basis. An eligible producer may resupply for payment of the difference between the claim for payment filed under subdivision 5 and the pro rata amount received:

1. until the full amount of the original claim is paid; and
2. subject to available money appropriated for the express purpose of paying claims not otherwise paid.

(d) An eligible facility may blend a cellulosic feedstock with other fuels in the biomass thermal production facility, but only the percentage attributable to biomass meeting the cellulosic forestry biomass requirements or agricultural cellulosic biomass sourcing plan is eligible to receive payment.

(e) When a facility is eligible due to adding production capacity or retrofitting existing capacity, the entire amount of biomass meeting the cellulosic forestry biomass requirements or agricultural cellulosic biomass sourcing plan is assumed to have been used for the biomass thermal production from the added or retrofitted production capacity.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2020, and applies to claims filed after January 1, 2020.
Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 41A.19, is amended to read:

41A.19 REPORT; INCENTIVE PROGRAMS.

By January 15 each year, the commissioner shall report on the incentive programs under sections 41A.16, 41A.17, 41A.18, 41A.20, and 41A.21 to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over environment policy and finance and agriculture policy and finance. The report shall include information on production and incentive expenditures under the programs, as well as the following information that the commissioner must require of each producer who receives a payment during the reporting period:

1. the producer’s business structure;
2. the name and address of the producer’s parent company, if any;
3. a cumulative list of all financial assistance received from all grantors for the project;
4. goals for the number of jobs created and progress in achieving these goals, which may include separate goals for the number of part-time or full-time jobs, or, in cases where job loss is specific and demonstrable, goals for the number of jobs retained;
5. equity hiring goals and progress in achieving these goals;
6. wage goals and progress in achieving these goals for all jobs created or maintained by the producer;
7. board member and executive compensation;
8. evidence of compliance with environmental permits;
9. the producer’s intended and actual use of payments received from the commissioner; and
10. if applicable, the latest financial audit opinion statement produced by a certified public accountant in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 41A.21, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Eligibility. (a) A facility eligible for payment under this section must source at least 80 percent of its forest resources raw materials from Minnesota. The facility must be located in Minnesota; must begin construction activities by December 31, 2022; must begin production at a specific location by June 30, 2025; and must not begin operating before January 1, 2022. Eligible facilities must be new OSB construction sites with total capital investment in excess of $250,000,000. Eligible OSB production facilities must produce at least 200,000,000 OSB square feet on a 3/8-inch nominal basis of OSB each quarter. At least one product produced at the facility should be a
wood-based wall or roof structural sheathing panel that has an integrated, cellulose-based paper overlay that serves as a water resistive barrier.

(b) No payments shall be made for OSB production that occurs after June 30, 2036, for those eligible producers under paragraph (a).

(c) An eligible producer of OSB shall not transfer the producer's eligibility for payments under this section to a facility at a different location.

(d) A producer that ceases production for any reason is ineligible to receive payments under this section until the producer resumes production.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 41A.21, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. Appropriation. (a) In fiscal year 2025, a sum sufficient to make the payments required by this section, not to exceed $1,500,000, is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner. This is a onetime appropriation.

(b) From fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2034, a sum sufficient to make the payments required by this section, not to exceed $3,000,000 in a fiscal year, is annually appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner.

(c) The commissioner may use up to 6.5 percent of this appropriation for costs incurred to administer the program.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 41B.025, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 10. Timely decisions. The authority must make a decision on a completed loan application submitted by a borrower or eligible agricultural lender within ten business days.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 41B.047, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Eligibility. To be eligible for this program, a borrower must:

(1) meet the requirements of section 41B.03, subdivision 1;

(2) certify that the damage or loss was (i) sustained within a county that was the subject of a state or federal disaster declaration; (ii) due to the confirmed presence of a highly contagious animal disease in Minnesota; (iii) due to an infectious human disease for which the governor has declared a peacetime emergency; or (iv) due to an emergency as determined by the authority;

(3) demonstrate an ability to repay the loan; and

(4) have received at least 50 percent of average annual gross income from farming in the past three years.
Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 223.17, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (c) to (e), before a grain buyer's license is issued, the applicant for the license must file with the commissioner a bond in a penal sum prescribed by the commissioner but not less than the following amounts:

(1) $10,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are $100,000 or less;
(2) $20,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than $100,000 but not more than $750,000;
(3) $30,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than $750,000 but not more than $1,500,000;
(4) $40,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than $1,500,000 but not more than $3,000,000;
(5) $50,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than $3,000,000 but not more than $6,000,000;
(6) $70,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than $6,000,000 but not more than $12,000,000;
(7) $125,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than $12,000,000 but not more than $24,000,000; and
(8) $150,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases exceed $24,000,000.

(b) The amount of the bond shall be based on the most recent gross annual grain purchase report of the grain buyer.

(c) A first-time applicant for a grain buyer's license shall file a $50,000 bond with the commissioner. This bond shall remain in effect for the first year of the license. Thereafter, the licensee shall comply with the applicable bonding requirements contained in paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (8).

(d) In lieu of the bond required by this subdivision the applicant may deposit with the commissioner of management and budget an irrevocable bank letter of credit as defined in section 336.5-102, in the same amount as would be required for a bond.

(e) A grain buyer who purchases grain immediately upon delivery solely with cash; a certified check; a cashier's check; or a postal, bank, or express money order is exempt from this subdivision if the grain buyer's gross annual purchases are $100,000 or less.

(f) Bonds must be continuous until canceled. To cancel a bond, a surety must provide 90 days' written notice of the bond's termination date to the licensee and the commissioner.

Subd. 4. Bond. (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (c) to (e), before a grain buyer's license is issued, the applicant for the license must file with the commissioner a bond in a penal sum prescribed by the commissioner but not less than the following amounts:

(1) $10,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are $100,000 or less;
(2) $20,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than $100,000 but not more than $750,000;
(3) $30,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than $750,000 but not more than $1,500,000;
(4) $40,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than $1,500,000 but not more than $3,000,000;
(5) $50,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than $3,000,000 but not more than $6,000,000;
(6) $70,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than $6,000,000 but not more than $12,000,000;
(7) $125,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases are more than $12,000,000 but not more than $24,000,000; and
(8) $150,000 for grain buyers whose gross annual purchases exceed $24,000,000.

(b) The amount of the bond shall be based on the most recent gross annual grain purchase report of the grain buyer.

(c) A first-time applicant for a grain buyer's license shall file a $50,000 bond with the commissioner. This bond shall remain in effect for the first year of the license. Thereafter, the licensee shall comply with the applicable bonding requirements contained in paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (8).

(d) In lieu of the bond required by this subdivision the applicant may deposit with the commissioner of management and budget an irrevocable bank letter of credit as defined in section 336.5-102, in the same amount as would be required for a bond.

(e) A grain buyer who purchases grain immediately upon delivery solely with cash; a certified check; a cashier's check; or a postal, bank, or express money order is exempt from this subdivision if the grain buyer's gross annual purchases are $100,000 or less.

(f) Bonds must be continuous until canceled. To cancel a bond, a surety must provide 90 days' written notice of the bond's termination date to the licensee and the commissioner.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section is effective the day following final enactment.
Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 223.17, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

(a) Except as allowed in paragraph (c), a grain buyer licensed under this chapter must annually submit to the commissioner a financial statement prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The annual financial statement required under this subdivision must also:

(i) a balance sheet;

(ii) a statement of income (profit and loss);

(iii) a statement of retained earnings;

(iv) a statement of changes in financial position; and

(v) a statement of the dollar amount of grain purchased in the previous fiscal year of the grain buyer;

(2) be accompanied by a compilation report of the financial statement that is prepared by an independent public accountant, in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants;

(3) be accompanied by a certification by the chief executive officer or the chief executive officer's designee of the licensee, and where applicable, all members of the governing board of directors under penalty of perjury, that the financial statement accurately reflects the financial condition of the licensee for the period specified in the statement;

(4) for grain buyers purchasing under $5,000,000 of grain annually, be reviewed by a certified public accountant in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and must show that the financial statements are free from material misstatements; and

(5) for grain buyers purchasing $5,000,000 to $7,500,000 of grain annually, be audited by a certified public accountant in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and must include an opinion statement from the certified public accountant.

(b) Only one financial statement must be filed for a chain of warehouses operated as a single business entity, unless otherwise required by the commissioner. All financial statements filed with the commissioner are private or nonpublic data as provided in section 13.02.

(c) A grain buyer who purchases grain immediately upon delivery solely with cash; a certified check; a cashier's check; or a postal, bank, or express money order is exempt from this subdivision if the grain buyer's gross annual purchases are $100,000 or less.
(d) The commissioner shall annually provide information on a person's fiduciary duties to each licensee. To the extent practicable, the commissioner must direct each licensee to provide this information to all persons required to certify the licensee's financial statement under paragraph (a), clause (3).

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.