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ARTICLE 1

APPROPRIATIONS

Section 1. AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS.

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the general fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2024" and "2025" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or June 30, 2025, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2024. "The second year" is fiscal year 2025. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	
	<u>Available for the Year</u>	
	<u>Ending June 30</u>	
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>

Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Subdivision 1. <u>Total Appropriation</u>	\$	<u>96,089,000</u>	\$	<u>74,253,000</u>
<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>				
	<u>2024</u>		<u>2025</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>95,690,000</u>		<u>73,854,000</u>	
<u>Remediation</u>	<u>399,000</u>		<u>399,000</u>	

The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. Protection Services

<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>				
	<u>2024</u>		<u>2025</u>	

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ARTICLE 1

APPROPRIATIONS

Section 1. AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS.

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the general fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2024" and "2025" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or June 30, 2025, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2024. "The second year" is fiscal year 2025. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	
	<u>Available for the Year</u>	
	<u>Ending June 30</u>	
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>

Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Subdivision 1. <u>Total Appropriation</u>	\$	<u>90,969,000</u>	\$	<u>73,029,000</u>
<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>				
	<u>2024</u>		<u>2025</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>90,570,000</u>		<u>72,630,000</u>	
<u>Remediation</u>	<u>399,000</u>		<u>399,000</u>	

The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. Protection Services

<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>				
	<u>2024</u>		<u>2025</u>	

2.17	General	<u>24,400,000</u>	<u>23,350,000</u>
2.18	Remediation	<u>399,000</u>	<u>399,000</u>
2.19	(a) \$399,000 the first year and \$399,000 the		
2.20	second year are from the remediation fund for		
2.21	administrative funding for the voluntary		
2.22	cleanup program.		
2.23	(b) <u>\$1,000,000</u> the first year and <u>\$1,000,000</u> the		
2.24	second year are for the soil health financial		
2.25	assistance program under Minnesota Statutes,		
2.26	section 17.134. The commissioner may award		
2.27	no more than \$50,000 of the appropriation		
2.28	each year to a single recipient. This is a		
2.29	onetime appropriation. Any unencumbered		
2.30	balance does not cancel at the end of the first		
2.31	year and is available in the second year.		
2.32	Appropriations encumbered under contract on		
2.33	or before June 30, 2025, for soil health		
2.34	financial assistance grants are available until		
2.35	June 30, 2027.		
3.1	<u>(c) \$375,000</u> the first year and <u>\$375,000</u> the		
3.2	second year are for transfer to the noxious		
3.3	weed and invasive plant species assistance		
3.4	account in the agricultural fund to award		
3.5	grants to local units of government and Tribal		
3.6	Nations under Minnesota Statutes, section		
3.7	18.90. The base for this appropriation is		
3.8	<u>\$225,000</u> for fiscal year 2026 and thereafter.		
3.9	<u>(d) \$215,000</u> the first year and <u>\$215,000</u> the		
3.10	second year are for compensation for		
3.11	destroyed or crippled livestock under		
3.12	Minnesota Statutes, section 3.737. The first		
3.13	year appropriation may be spent to compensate		
3.14	for livestock that were destroyed or crippled		
3.15	during fiscal year 2023. If the amount in the		
3.16	first year is insufficient, the amount in the		
3.17	second year is available in the first year. The		

2.22	General	<u>29,666,000</u>	<u>17,610,000</u>
2.23	Remediation	<u>399,000</u>	<u>399,000</u>
2.24	(a) \$399,000 the first year and \$399,000 the		
2.25	second year are from the remediation fund for		
2.26	administrative funding for the voluntary		
2.27	cleanup program.		
2.28	(b) <u>\$250,000</u> the first year and <u>\$250,000</u> the		
2.29	second year are for the soil health financial		
2.30	assistance program. The commissioner may		
2.31	use up to 6.5 percent of this appropriation for		
2.32	costs incurred to administer the program. This		
2.33	is a onetime appropriation. Any unencumbered		
2.34	balance does not cancel at the end of the first		
2.35	year and is available in the second year.		
3.1	Appropriations encumbered under contract on		
3.2	or before June 30, 2025, for soil health		
3.3	financial assistance grants are available until		
3.4	June 30, 2027.		
3.5	<u>(c) \$2,500,000</u> the first year is for transfer to		
3.6	the pollinator research account established		
3.7	under Minnesota Statutes, section 18B.051.		
3.8	<u>(d) \$400,000</u> the first year and <u>\$400,000</u> the		
3.9	second year are for transfer to the noxious		
3.10	weed and invasive plant species assistance		
3.11	account established under Minnesota Statutes,		
3.12	section 18.89, to award grants to local units		
3.13	of government and Tribal Nations under		
3.14	Minnesota Statutes, section 18.90.		
3.15	<u>(e) \$175,000</u> the first year and <u>\$175,000</u> the		
3.16	second year are for compensation for		
3.17	destroyed or crippled livestock under		
3.18	Minnesota Statutes, section 3.737. The first		
3.19	year appropriation may be spent to compensate		
3.20	for livestock that were destroyed or crippled		
3.21	during fiscal year 2023. If the amount in the		
3.22	first year is insufficient, the amount in the		
3.23	second year is available in the first year. The		

3.18 commissioner may use up to \$5,000 each year
3.19 to reimburse expenses incurred by university
3.20 extension educators to provide fair market
3.21 values of destroyed or crippled livestock. If
3.22 the commissioner receives federal dollars to
3.23 pay claims for destroyed or crippled livestock,
3.24 an equivalent amount of this appropriation
3.25 may be used to reimburse nonlethal prevention
3.26 methods performed by federal wildlife services
3.27 staff. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
3.28 section 16A.28, any unencumbered balance
3.29 does not cancel at the end of the first year and
3.30 is available in the second year. The base for
3.31 this appropriation is \$175,000 for fiscal year
3.32 2026 and thereafter.

3.33 (e) \$190,000 the first year and \$190,000 the
3.34 second year are for compensation for crop
3.35 damage under Minnesota Statutes, section
4.1 3.7371. If the amount in the first year is
4.2 insufficient, the amount in the second year is
4.3 available in the first year. The commissioner
4.4 may use up to \$10,000 of the appropriation
4.5 each year to reimburse expenses incurred by
4.6 the commissioner or the commissioner's
4.7 approved agent to investigate and resolve
4.8 claims, as well as for costs associated with
4.9 training for approved agents. The
4.10 commissioner may use up to \$20,000 of the
4.11 appropriation each year to make grants to
4.12 producers for measures to protect stored crops
4.13 from elk damage. If the commissioner
4.14 determines that claims made under Minnesota
4.15 Statutes, section 3.737 or 3.7371, are
4.16 unusually high, amounts appropriated for
4.17 either program may be transferred to the
4.18 appropriation for the other program.
4.19 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section
4.20 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not
4.21 cancel at the end of the first year and is
4.22 available in the second year. The base for this
4.23 appropriation is \$155,000 for fiscal year 2026
4.24 and thereafter.

3.24 commissioner may use up to \$5,000 each year
3.25 to reimburse expenses incurred by university
3.26 extension educators to provide fair market
3.27 values of destroyed or crippled livestock. If
3.28 the commissioner receives federal dollars to
3.29 pay claims for destroyed or crippled livestock,
3.30 an equivalent amount of this appropriation
3.31 may be used to reimburse nonlethal prevention
3.32 methods performed by federal wildlife services
3.33 staff.

3.34 (f) \$155,000 the first year and \$155,000 the
3.35 second year are for compensation for crop
4.1 damage under Minnesota Statutes, section
4.2 3.7371. If the amount in the first year is
4.3 insufficient, the amount in the second year is
4.4 available in the first year. The commissioner
4.5 may use up to \$10,000 of the appropriation
4.6 each year to reimburse expenses incurred by
4.7 the commissioner or the commissioner's
4.8 approved agent to investigate and resolve
4.9 claims, as well as for costs associated with
4.10 training for approved agents. The
4.11 commissioner may use up to \$40,000 of the
4.12 appropriation each year to make grants to
4.13 producers for measures to protect stored crops
4.14 from elk damage. If the commissioner
4.15 determines that claims made under Minnesota
4.16 Statutes, section 3.737 or 3.7371, are
4.17 unusually high, amounts appropriated for
4.18 either program may be transferred to the
4.19 appropriation for the other program.

4.25 (f) \$825,000 the first year and \$825,000 the
4.26 second year are to replace capital equipment
4.27 in the Department of Agriculture's analytical
4.28 laboratory. The base for this appropriation for
4.29 fiscal year 2026 and thereafter is \$825,000.

4.30 (g) \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the
4.31 second year are to support a meat processing
4.32 liaison position to assist new or existing meat
4.33 and poultry processing operations in getting
4.34 started, expanding, growing, or transitioning
4.35 into new business models.

5.1 (h) \$950,000 the first year and \$950,000 the
5.2 second year are additional funding to maintain
5.3 the current level of service delivery for
5.4 programs under this subdivision. The base for
5.5 this appropriation is \$1,388,000 for fiscal year
5.6 2026 and thereafter.

5.7 (i) \$975,000 the first year and \$975,000 the
5.8 second year are for grants to the Board of
5.9 Regents of the University of Minnesota to
5.10 fund the Forever Green Initiative and protect
5.11 the state's natural resources while increasing
5.12 the efficiency, profitability, and productivity
5.13 of Minnesota's farmers by incorporating
5.14 perennial and winter-annual crops into existing
5.15 agricultural practices. By February 1 each
5.16 year, the dean of the College of Food,
5.17 Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences
5.18 must submit a report to the chairs and ranking
5.19 minority members of the legislative
5.20 committees with jurisdiction over agriculture
5.21 finance and policy and higher education
5.22 detailing uses of the funds in this paragraph,
5.23 including administrative costs, and the
5.24 achievements these funds contributed to.

5.25 (j) \$1,250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the
5.26 second year are for grants to organizations in
5.27 Minnesota to develop enterprises, supply
5.28 chains, and markets for continuous-living
5.29 cover crops and cropping systems in the early
5.30 stages of commercial development. For the

4.23 (h) \$825,000 the first year and \$825,000 the
4.24 second year are to replace capital equipment
4.25 in the Department of Agriculture's analytical
4.26 laboratory.

4.27 (i) \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the
4.28 second year are to support a meat processing
4.29 liaison position to assist new or existing meat
4.30 and poultry processing operations in getting
4.31 started, expanding, growing, or transitioning
4.32 into new business models.

8.8 (6) \$690,000 the first year and \$690,000 the
8.9 second year are to fund the Forever Green
8.10 Initiative and protect the state's natural
8.11 resources while increasing the efficiency,
8.12 profitability, and productivity of Minnesota
8.13 farmers by incorporating perennial and
8.14 winter-annual crops into existing agricultural
8.15 practices. The base for the allocation under
8.16 this clause is \$630,000 in fiscal year 2026 and
8.17 thereafter;

8.18 (7) \$1,000,000 the first year is to purchase and
8.19 maintain equipment and physical infrastructure
8.20 to support breeding, agronomic research, and
8.21 food science activities of the Forever Green
8.22 Initiative. The allocation in this clause is
8.23 onetime; and

4.33 (j) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
4.34 second year are for grants to organizations in
4.35 Minnesota to develop enterprises, supply
5.1 chains, and markets for continuous-living
5.2 cover crops and cropping systems in the early
5.3 stages of commercial development. For the

5.31 purposes of this paragraph, "continuous-living
5.32 cover crops and cropping systems" refers to
5.33 agroforestry, perennial biomass, perennial
5.34 forage, perennial grains, and winter-annual
5.35 cereal grains and oilseeds that have market
6.1 value as harvested or grazed commodities. By
6.2 February 1 each year, the commissioner must
6.3 submit a report to the chairs and ranking
6.4 minority members of the legislative
6.5 committees with jurisdiction over agriculture
6.6 finance and policy detailing uses of the funds
6.7 in this paragraph, including administrative
6.8 costs, and the achievements these funds
6.9 contributed to. Of the amount in the first year,
6.10 \$1,000,000 must be used to support markets
6.11 for Kernza perennial grain, winter camelina,
6.12 hybrid hazelnut, and elderberry, and is
6.13 available until June 30, 2027. The
6.14 commissioner may use up to 6.5 percent of
6.15 this appropriation for administrative costs.

6.16 (k) \$225,000 the first year and \$225,000 the
6.17 second year are appropriated for
6.18 wolf-livestock conflict-prevention grants. The
6.19 commissioner may use up to \$125,000 from
6.20 each year to reimburse nonlethal prevention
6.21 work performed by federal wildlife services.
6.22 This is a onetime appropriation.

6.23 (l) \$50,000 the first year is to convene a
6.24 working group of interested parties, including
6.25 representatives from the Department of
6.26 Natural Resources, to investigate and
6.27 recommend measures to protect crops, stored
6.28 crops, and forage from destruction due to
6.29 white-tailed deer. Membership of the working
6.30 group is at the discretion of the commissioner.
6.31 The commissioner or the commissioner's

5.4 purposes of this paragraph, "continuous living
5.5 cover crops and cropping systems" refers to
5.6 agroforestry, perennial biomass, perennial
5.7 forage, perennial grains, and winter annual
5.8 cereal grains and oilseeds that have market
5.9 value as harvested or grazed commodities.
5.10 The commissioner may use up to 6.5 percent
5.11 of this appropriation for costs incurred to
5.12 administer the program. This is a onetime
5.13 appropriation.

5.14 (k) \$1,126,000 the first year and \$562,000 the
5.15 second year are to identify and regulate
5.16 pesticides containing perfluoroalkyl or
5.17 polyfluoroalkyl substances.

6.32 designated representative must convene and
6.33 facilitate the working group. No later than
6.34 February 1, 2024, the commissioner must
6.35 submit a report on the working group's
7.1 recommendations to the legislative committees
7.2 with jurisdiction over agriculture policy and
7.3 finance. This is a onetime appropriation.

7.4 Subd. 3. **Agricultural Marketing and**
7.5 **Development** 4,815,000 4,815,000

7.6 (a) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the
7.7 second year are to expand international trade
7.8 opportunities and markets for Minnesota
7.9 agricultural products.

7.10 (b) \$186,000 the first year and \$186,000 the
7.11 second year are for transfer to the Minnesota
7.12 Grown account and may be used as grants for
7.13 Minnesota Grown promotion under Minnesota
7.14 Statutes, section 17.102. Notwithstanding
7.15 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, the
7.16 appropriations encumbered under contract on
7.17 or before June 30, 2025, for Minnesota Grown
7.18 grants in this paragraph are available until June
7.19 30, 2027.

7.20 (c) \$634,000 the first year and \$634,000 the
7.21 second year are for the continuation of the
7.22 dairy development and profitability
7.23 enhancement programs, including dairy
7.24 profitability teams and dairy business planning
7.25 grants under Minnesota Statutes, section
7.26 32D.30.

5.18 (l) \$100,000 the first year is to regulate
5.19 systemic pesticide-treated seed.

5.20 (m) \$65,000 the first year is for transfer to the
5.21 commissioner of natural resources for a report
5.22 on feral pigs and mink.

5.23 Subd. 3. **Agricultural Marketing and**
5.24 **Development** 4,365,000 4,365,000

5.25 (a) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the
5.26 second year are to expand international trade
5.27 opportunities and markets for Minnesota
5.28 agricultural products. The base for this
5.29 appropriation is \$75,000 in fiscal year 2026
5.30 and \$75,000 in fiscal year 2027.

5.31 (b) \$186,000 the first year and \$186,000 the
5.32 second year are for transfer to the Minnesota
5.33 grown account and may be used as grants for
5.34 Minnesota grown promotion established under
6.1 Minnesota Statutes, section 17.102.
6.2 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section
6.3 16A.28, the appropriations encumbered under
6.4 contract on or before June 30, 2025, for
6.5 Minnesota grown grants in this paragraph are
6.6 available until June 30, 2027.

6.7 (c) \$634,000 the first year and \$634,000 the
6.8 second year are for continuation of the dairy
6.9 development and profitability enhancement
6.10 programs including dairy profitability teams
6.11 and dairy business planning grants under
6.12 Minnesota Statutes, section 32D.30.

7.27 (d) The commissioner may use funds
7.28 appropriated in this subdivision for annual
7.29 cost-share payments to resident farmers or
7.30 entities that sell, process, or package
7.31 agricultural products in this state for the costs
7.32 of organic certification. The commissioner
7.33 may allocate these funds for assistance to
7.34 persons transitioning from conventional to
7.35 organic agriculture.

8.1 (e) \$450,000 the first year and \$450,000 the
8.2 second year are to maintain the current level
8.3 of service delivery. The base for this
8.4 appropriation is \$550,000 for fiscal year 2026
8.5 and thereafter.

8.6 (f) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the
8.7 second year are for mental health outreach and
8.8 support to farmers, ranchers, and others in the
8.9 agricultural community and for farm safety
8.10 grant and outreach programs under Minnesota
8.11 Statutes, section 17.1195. Mental health
8.12 outreach and support may include a 24-hour
8.13 hotline, stigma reduction, and education.
8.14 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section
8.15 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not
8.16 cancel at the end of the first year and is
8.17 available in the second year. This is a onetime
8.18 appropriation.

8.19 (g) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the
8.20 second year are to award and administer grants
8.21 to facilitate the start-up or expansion of
8.22 aggregation and food hub services at farmers
8.23 markets. This is a onetime appropriation.
8.24 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section
8.25 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not
8.26 cancel at the end of the first year and is
8.27 available in the second year. This is a onetime
8.28 appropriation.

6.19 (e) The commissioner may use funds
6.20 appropriated in this subdivision for annual
6.21 cost-share payments to resident farmers or
6.22 entities that sell, process, or package
6.23 agricultural products in this state for the costs
6.24 of organic certification. The commissioner
6.25 may allocate these funds for assistance to
6.26 persons transitioning from conventional to
6.27 organic agriculture.

8.29	Subd. 4. Agriculture, Bioenergy, and Bioproduct		
8.30	Advancement	<u>36,232,000</u>	<u>30,732,000</u>
8.31	(a) <u>\$9,800,000 the first year and \$9,800,000</u>		
8.32	<u>the second year are for transfer to the</u>		
8.33	<u>agriculture research, education, extension, and</u>		
8.34	<u>technology transfer account under Minnesota</u>		
8.35	<u>Statutes, section 41A.14, subdivision 3. Of</u>		
9.1	<u>these amounts: at least \$600,000 the first year</u>		
9.2	<u>and \$600,000 the second year are for the</u>		
9.3	<u>Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station's</u>		
9.4	<u>agriculture rapid response fund under</u>		
9.5	<u>Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.14,</u>		
9.6	<u>subdivision 1, clause (2); \$2,500,000 the first</u>		
9.7	<u>year and \$2,500,000 the second year are for</u>		
9.8	<u>grants to the Minnesota Agricultural Education</u>		
9.9	<u>Leadership Council to enhance agricultural</u>		
9.10	<u>education with priority given to Farm Business</u>		
9.11	<u>Management challenge grants; \$450,000 the</u>		
9.12	<u>first year and \$450,000 the second year are</u>		
9.13	<u>for projects, programs, and research associated</u>		
9.14	<u>with the preservation and production of wild</u>		
9.15	<u>rice in collaboration with Minnesota Tribal</u>		
9.16	<u>governments as defined in Minnesota Statutes,</u>		
9.17	<u>section 10.65, subdivision 2, paragraph (a),</u>		
9.18	<u>clause (4); and \$350,000 the first year and</u>		
9.19	<u>\$350,000 the second year are for potato</u>		
9.20	<u>breeding. The commissioner shall transfer the</u>		
9.21	<u>remaining funds in this appropriation each</u>		
9.22	<u>year to the Board of Regents of the University</u>		
9.23	<u>of Minnesota for purposes of Minnesota</u>		
9.24	<u>Statutes, section 41A.14. Of the amount</u>		
9.25	<u>transferred to the Board of Regents, up to</u>		
9.26	<u>\$1,000,000 each year is for avian influenza</u>		
9.27	<u>prevention measures and research on avian</u>		
9.28	<u>influenza, salmonella, and other turkey-related</u>		
9.29	<u>diseases. Funds may be used for researching</u>		
9.30	<u>avian influenza prevention measures, including</u>		
9.31	<u>but not limited to measures to prevent</u>		
9.32	<u>transmission of avian influenza from wild</u>		
9.33	<u>birds to domestic turkeys. To the extent</u>		
9.34	<u>practicable, money expended under Minnesota</u>		
9.35	<u>Statutes, section 41A.14, subdivision 1,</u>		

6.28	Subd. 4. Agriculture, Bioenergy, and Bioproduct		
6.29	Advancement	<u>34,982,000</u>	<u>33,982,000</u>
6.30	(a) <u>\$11,740,000 the first year and \$10,740,000</u>		
6.31	<u>the second year are for the agriculture</u>		
6.32	<u>research, education, extension, and technology</u>		
6.33	<u>transfer program under Minnesota Statutes,</u>		
6.34	<u>section 41A.14. Except as provided below,</u>		
6.35	<u>the appropriation each year is for transfer to</u>		
7.1	<u>the agriculture research, education, extension,</u>		
7.2	<u>and technology transfer account under</u>		
7.3	<u>Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.14,</u>		
7.4	<u>subdivision 3, and the commissioner shall</u>		
7.5	<u>transfer funds each year to the Board of</u>		
7.6	<u>Regents of the University of Minnesota for</u>		
7.7	<u>purposes of Minnesota Statutes, section</u>		
7.8	<u>41A.14. To the extent practicable, money</u>		
7.9	<u>expended under Minnesota Statutes, section</u>		
7.10	<u>41A.14, subdivision 1, clauses (1) and (2),</u>		
7.11	<u>must supplement and not supplant existing</u>		
7.12	<u>sources and levels of funding. The</u>		
7.13	<u>commissioner may use up to one percent of</u>		
7.14	<u>this appropriation for costs incurred to</u>		
7.15	<u>administer the program.</u>		
7.16	<u>Of the amount appropriated for the agriculture</u>		
7.17	<u>research, education, extension, and technology</u>		
7.18	<u>transfer grant program under Minnesota</u>		
7.19	<u>Statutes, section 41A.14:</u>		
7.20	<u>(1) \$600,000 the first year and \$600,000 the</u>		
7.21	<u>second year are for the Minnesota Agricultural</u>		
7.22	<u>Experiment Station's agriculture rapid</u>		
7.23	<u>response fund under Minnesota Statutes,</u>		
7.24	<u>section 41A.14, subdivision 1, clause (2);</u>		
7.25	<u>(2) up to \$1,000,000 the first year and up to</u>		
7.26	<u>\$1,000,000 the second year are for research</u>		
7.27	<u>on avian influenza, salmonella, and other</u>		
7.28	<u>turkey-related diseases;</u>		
7.29	<u>(3) \$2,250,000 the first year and \$2,250,000</u>		
7.30	<u>the second year are for grants to the Minnesota</u>		
7.31	<u>Agricultural Education Leadership Council to</u>		

9.36 clauses (1) and (2), must supplement and not
10.1 supplant existing sources and levels of
10.2 funding. By January 15 each year, the entities
10.3 receiving grants under this paragraph are
10.4 requested to submit a report on the
10.5 expenditures under this paragraph to the chairs
10.6 and ranking minority members of the
10.7 legislative committees and divisions with
10.8 jurisdiction over agriculture policy and
10.9 finance. The commissioner may use up to one
10.10 percent of this appropriation for costs incurred
10.11 to administer the program.

10.12 (b) \$26,432,000 the first year and \$20,932,000
10.13 the second year are for the agricultural growth,
10.14 research, and innovation program under
10.15 Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.12. The
10.16 commissioner may use up to 6.5 percent of
10.17 this appropriation for costs incurred to
10.18 administer the program.

7.32 enhance agricultural education with priority
7.33 given to Farm Business Management
7.34 challenge grants;

8.1 (4) \$450,000 the first year and \$450,000 the
8.2 second year are for the cultivated wild rice
8.3 breeding project at the North Central Research
8.4 and Outreach Center to include a tenure
8.5 track/research associate plant breeder;

8.6 (5) \$350,000 the first year and \$350,000 the
8.7 second year are for potato breeding;

8.24 (8) \$500,000 each year is for farm-scale winter
8.25 greenhouse research and development
8.26 coordinated by University of Minnesota
8.27 Extension Regional Sustainable Development
8.28 Partnerships. The allocation in this clause is
8.29 onetime.

8.30 (b) The base for the agriculture research,
8.31 education, extension, and technology transfer
8.32 program is \$10,180,000 in fiscal year 2026
8.33 and \$10,180,000 in fiscal year 2027.

9.1 (c) \$23,242,000 the first year and \$23,242,000
9.2 the second year are for the agricultural growth,
9.3 research, and innovation program under
9.4 Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.12. Except
9.5 as provided below, the commissioner may
9.6 allocate this appropriation each year among
9.7 the following areas: facilitating the start-up,
9.8 modernization, improvement, or expansion of
9.9 livestock operations, including beginning and
9.10 transitioning livestock operations with
9.11 preference given to robotic dairy-milking
9.12 equipment; assisting value-added agricultural
9.13 businesses to begin or expand, to access new
9.14 markets, or to diversify, including aquaponics
9.15 systems; facilitating the start-up,
9.16 modernization, or expansion of other
9.17 beginning and transitioning farms, including
9.18 by providing loans under Minnesota Statutes,
9.19 section 41B.056; sustainable agriculture
9.20 on-farm research and demonstration; the

10.19 Of the amount appropriated for the agricultural
10.20 growth, research, and innovation program
10.21 under Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.12:

10.22 (1) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000
10.23 the second year are for distribution in equal
10.24 amounts to each of the state's county fairs to
10.25 preserve and promote Minnesota agriculture;

10.26 (2) \$6,000,000 the first year and \$6,000,000
10.27 the second year are for incentive payments
10.28 under Minnesota Statutes, sections 41A.16,
10.29 41A.17, 41A.18, and 41A.20. Notwithstanding
10.30 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, the first
10.31 year appropriation is available until June 30,
10.32 2025, and the second year appropriation is
10.33 available until June 30, 2026. If this
10.34 appropriation exceeds the total amount for
10.35 which all producers are eligible in a fiscal
11.1 year, the balance of the appropriation is
11.2 available for other purposes under this
11.3 paragraph. The base under this clause is
11.4 \$6,125,000 in fiscal year 2026 and thereafter;

11.5 (3) \$4,500,000 the first year and \$4,500,000
11.6 the second year are for grants that enable retail
11.7 petroleum dispensers, fuel storage tanks, and
11.8 other equipment to dispense biofuels to the
11.9 public in accordance with the biofuel

9.21 development or expansion of food hubs and
9.22 other alternative community-based food
9.23 distribution systems; enhancing renewable
9.24 energy infrastructure and use; crop research,
9.25 including basic and applied turf seed research;
9.26 Farm Business Management tuition assistance;
9.27 and good agricultural practices and good
9.28 handling practices certification assistance. The
9.29 commissioner may use up to 6.5 percent of
9.30 this appropriation for costs incurred to
9.31 administer the program.

9.32 Of the amount appropriated for the agricultural
9.33 growth, research, and innovation program
9.34 under Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.12:

10.1 (1) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000
10.2 the second year are for distribution in equal
10.3 amounts to each of the state's county fairs to
10.4 preserve and promote Minnesota agriculture;

10.5 (2) \$6,750,000 the first year and \$6,750,000
10.6 the second year are for incentive payments
10.7 under Minnesota Statutes, sections 41A.16,
10.8 41A.17, 41A.18, and 41A.20. Of the amount
10.9 allocated each year, \$1,000,000 is to pay prior
10.10 claims that were not fully paid.
10.11 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section
10.12 16A.28, the first year appropriation is
10.13 available until June 30, 2025, and the second
10.14 year appropriation is available until June 30,
10.15 2026. If this appropriation exceeds the total
10.16 amount for which all producers are eligible in
10.17 a fiscal year, the balance of the appropriation
10.18 is available for other purposes under this
10.19 paragraph. The base under this clause is
10.20 \$5,750,000 in fiscal year 2026 and thereafter
10.21 and does not include funding to pay prior
10.22 claims that were not fully paid;

10.23 (3) \$3,000,000 the first year and \$3,000,000
10.24 the second year are for grants that enable retail
10.25 petroleum dispensers, fuel storage tanks, and
10.26 other equipment to dispense biofuels to the
10.27 public in accordance with the biofuel

11.10 replacement goals established under
11.11 Minnesota Statutes, section 239.7911. A retail
11.12 petroleum dispenser selling petroleum for use
11.13 in spark ignition engines for vehicle model
11.14 years after 2000 is eligible for grant money
11.15 under this clause if the retail petroleum
11.16 dispenser has no more than 10 retail petroleum
11.17 dispensing sites and each site is located in
11.18 Minnesota. The grant money must be used to
11.19 replace or upgrade equipment that does not
11.20 have the ability to be certified for E25. A grant
11.21 award must not exceed 65 percent of the cost
11.22 of the appropriate technology. A grant award
11.23 must not exceed \$200,000 per station. The
11.24 commissioner must cooperate with biofuel
11.25 stakeholders in the implementation of the grant
11.26 program. The commissioner, in cooperation
11.27 with any economic or community development
11.28 financial institution and any other entity with
11.29 which the commissioner contracts, must
11.30 submit a report on the biofuels infrastructure
11.31 financial assistance program by January 15 of
11.32 each year to the chairs and ranking minority
11.33 members of the legislative committees and
11.34 divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture
11.35 policy and finance. The annual report must
11.36 include but not be limited to a summary of the
12.1 following metrics: (i) the number and types
12.2 of projects financed; (ii) the amount of dollars
12.3 leveraged or matched per project; (iii) the
12.4 geographic distribution of financed projects;
12.5 (iv) any market expansion associated with
12.6 upgraded infrastructure; (v) the demographics
12.7 of the areas served; (vi) the costs of the
12.8 program; and (vii) the number of grants to
12.9 minority-owned or female-owned businesses.
12.10 The base under this clause is \$3,375,000 for
12.11 fiscal year 2026 and thereafter;

12.12 (4) \$1,500,000 the first year and \$1,500,000
12.13 the second year are for grants to facilitate the
12.14 start-up, modernization, or expansion of meat,
12.15 poultry, egg, and milk processing facilities. A
12.16 grant award under this clause must not exceed

10.28 replacement goals established under
10.29 Minnesota Statutes, section 239.7911. A retail
10.30 petroleum dispenser selling petroleum for use
10.31 in spark ignition engines for vehicle model
10.32 years after 2000 is eligible for grant money
10.33 under this clause if the retail petroleum
10.34 dispenser has no more than 10 retail petroleum
10.35 dispensing sites and each site is located in
11.1 Minnesota. The grant money must be used to
11.2 replace or upgrade equipment that does not
11.3 have the ability to be certified for E25. A grant
11.4 award must not exceed 65 percent of the cost
11.5 of the appropriate technology. A grant award
11.6 must not exceed \$200,000 per station. The
11.7 commissioner must cooperate with biofuel
11.8 stakeholders in the implementation of the grant
11.9 program. The commissioner, in cooperation
11.10 with any economic or community development
11.11 financial institution and any other entity with
11.12 which the commissioner contracts, must
11.13 submit a report on the biofuels infrastructure
11.14 financial assistance program by January 15 of
11.15 each year to the chairs and ranking minority
11.16 members of the legislative committees and
11.17 divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture
11.18 policy and finance. The annual report must
11.19 include but not be limited to a summary of the
11.20 following metrics: (i) the number and types
11.21 of projects financed; (ii) the amount of dollars
11.22 leveraged or matched per project; (iii) the
11.23 geographic distribution of financed projects;
11.24 (iv) any market expansion associated with
11.25 upgraded infrastructure; (v) the demographics
11.26 of the areas served; (vi) the costs of the
11.27 program; and (vii) the number of grants to
11.28 minority-owned or female-owned businesses;

12.4 (5) \$1,250,000 the first year and \$1,250,000
12.5 the second year are for grants to facilitate the
12.6 start-up, modernization, or expansion of meat,
12.7 poultry, egg, and milk processing facilities. A
12.8 grant award under this clause must not exceed

12.17 \$200,000. Any unencumbered balance at the
12.18 end of the second year does not cancel until
12.19 June 30, 2026, and may be used for other
12.20 purposes under this paragraph. The base under
12.21 this clause is \$250,000 in fiscal year 2026 and
12.22 thereafter;

12.23 (5) \$1,150,000 the first year and \$1,150,000
12.24 the second year are for providing more fruits,
12.25 vegetables, meat, poultry, grain, and dairy for
12.26 children in school and early childhood
12.27 education centers, including, at the
12.28 commissioner's discretion, providing grants
12.29 to reimburse schools and early childhood
12.30 education centers for purchasing equipment
12.31 and agricultural products. Of the amount
12.32 appropriated, \$150,000 each year is for a
12.33 statewide coordinator of farm-to-institution
12.34 strategy and programming. The coordinator
12.35 must consult with relevant stakeholders and
13.1 provide technical assistance and training for
13.2 participating farmers and eligible grant
13.3 recipients. The base under this clause is
13.4 \$800,000 in fiscal year 2026 and thereafter;

13.5 (6) \$5,500,000 the first year is for Dairy
13.6 Assistance, Investment, Relief Initiative
13.7 (DAIRI) grants to Minnesota dairy farmers
13.8 who enroll in coverage under a federal dairy
13.9 risk protection program and produced no more
13.10 than 25,000,000 pounds of milk in 2022. The
13.11 commissioner must award DAIRI grants based
13.12 on the amount of milk produced in 2022, up
13.13 to 5,000,000 pounds per participating
13.14 producer, at a rate determined by the
13.15 commissioner within the limits of available
13.16 funding. Any unencumbered balance does not
13.17 cancel at the end of the first year and is
13.18 available in the second year. Any
13.19 unencumbered balance at the end of the second
13.20 year does not cancel until June 30, 2026, and
13.21 may be used for other purposes under this
13.22 paragraph. This is a onetime appropriation;

12.9 \$200,000. Any unencumbered balance at the
12.10 end of the second year does not cancel until
12.11 June 30, 2026, and may be used for other
12.12 purposes under this paragraph. The base under
12.13 this clause is \$250,000 in fiscal year 2026 and
12.14 thereafter;

12.15 (6) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000
12.16 the second year are to develop and enhance
12.17 farm-to-school markets for Minnesota farmers
12.18 by providing more fruits, vegetables, meat,
12.19 grain, and dairy for Minnesota children in
12.20 schools and early childhood education centers,
12.21 including, at the commissioner's discretion,
12.22 reimbursing schools and early childhood
12.23 education centers for purchases from local
12.24 farmers;

18.26 (6) \$3,000,000 the first year is for Dairy
18.27 Assistance, Investment, Relief Initiative
18.28 (DAIRI) grants to Minnesota dairy farmers
18.29 who enroll in coverage under a federal dairy
18.30 risk protection program and produced no more
18.31 than 25,000,000 pounds of milk in 2022. The
18.32 commissioner must award DAIRI grants based
18.33 on the amount of milk produced in 2022, up
18.34 to 5,000,000 pounds per participating
18.35 producer, at a rate determined by the
19.1 commissioner within the limits of available
19.2 funding. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
19.3 section 16A.28, any unencumbered balance
19.4 does not cancel at the end of the first year and
19.5 is available the second year and any
19.6 unencumbered balance at the end of the second
19.7 year is available until June 30, 2026. The
19.8 commissioner may use up to 6.5 percent of

13.23 (7) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the
13.24 second year are for grants to support hemp
13.25 processing. This is a onetime appropriation;

13.26 (8) up to \$600,000 the first year and \$600,000
13.27 the second year are for urban youth
13.28 agricultural education or urban agriculture
13.29 community development;

13.30 (9) up to \$450,000 the first year and \$450,000
13.31 the second year are for the good food access
13.32 program under Minnesota Statutes, section
13.33 17.1017;

14.1 (10) \$1,500,000 the first year and \$1,500,000
14.2 the second year are for the livestock
14.3 investment grant program under Minnesota
14.4 Statutes, section 17.118. Any unencumbered
14.5 balance at the end of the second year does not
14.6 cancel until June 30, 2026, and may be used
14.7 for other purposes under this paragraph;

14.8 (11) \$1,150,000 the first year and \$1,150,000
14.9 the second year are for value-added grants;

14.10 (12) \$340,000 the first year and \$340,000 the
14.11 second year are for the New Markets Program;
14.12 and

14.13 (13) \$450,000 the first year and \$450,000 the
14.14 second year are for beginning farmer farm
14.15 business management scholarships.

14.16 By January 15 each year, the commissioner
14.17 must submit a report on the grants awarded
14.18 under this paragraph to the chairs and ranking
14.19 minority members of the legislative
14.20 committees and divisions with jurisdiction
14.21 over agriculture policy and finance.
14.22 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section
14.23 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not
14.24 cancel at the end of the first year and is

19.9 this appropriation for costs incurred to
19.10 administer the program.

12.33 (9) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000
12.34 the second year are to award and administer
13.1 hemp fiber processing equipment grants under
13.2 Minnesota Statutes, section 18K.10. The
13.3 allocation in this clause is onetime.

12.25 (7) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000
12.26 the second year are for urban youth
12.27 agricultural education or urban agriculture
12.28 community development;

12.29 (8) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
12.30 second year are for the good food access
12.31 program under Minnesota Statutes, section
12.32 17.1017; and

13.4 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section
13.5 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not
13.6 cancel at the end of the first year and is
13.7 available for the second year, and
13.8 appropriations encumbered under contract on
13.9 or before June 30, 2025, for agricultural
13.10 growth, research, and innovation grants are
13.11 available until June 30, 2028.

14.25 available for the second year, and
14.26 appropriations encumbered under contract on
14.27 or before June 30, 2025, for agricultural
14.28 growth, research, and innovation grants are
14.29 available until June 30, 2028.

14.30 The base for the agricultural growth, research,
14.31 and innovation program is \$17,582,000 in
14.32 fiscal year 2026 and thereafter, and includes
14.33 funding for incentive payments under
15.1 Minnesota Statutes, sections 41A.16, 41A.17,
15.2 41A.18, and 41A.20.

15.3 Subd. 5. Administration and Financial
15.4 Assistance

30,243,000

14,957,000

15.5 (a) \$474,000 the first year and \$474,000 the
15.6 second year are for payments to county and
15.7 district agricultural societies and associations
15.8 under Minnesota Statutes, section 38.02,
15.9 subdivision 1. Aid payments to county and
15.10 district agricultural societies and associations
15.11 must be disbursed no later than July 15 of each
15.12 year. These payments are the amount of aid
15.13 from the state for an annual fair held in the
15.14 previous calendar year.

15.15 (b) \$375,000 the first year and \$375,000 the
15.16 second year are for grants to the Minnesota
15.17 Agricultural Education and Leadership

11.29 (4) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the
11.30 second year are for grants to facilitate the
11.31 start-up, modernization, or expansion of
11.32 copacking facilities, commercial kitchens, and
11.33 other key supply chain infrastructure, such as
11.34 shared cold-chain capacity. Money
11.35 appropriated in this clause may also be used
11.36 to assist value-added processors with food
12.1 safety and environmental sustainability
12.2 guideline planning and third-party certification
12.3 services;

13.12 (d) The base for the agricultural growth,
13.13 research, and innovation program is
13.14 \$16,079,000 in fiscal year 2026 and
13.15 \$16,079,000 in fiscal year 2027, and includes
13.16 funding for incentive payments under
13.17 Minnesota Statutes, sections 41A.16, 41A.17,
13.18 41A.18, and 41A.20.

13.19 Subd. 5. Administration and Financial
13.20 Assistance

21,557,000

16,673,000

13.21 (a) \$474,000 the first year and \$474,000 the
13.22 second year are for payments to county and
13.23 district agricultural societies and associations
13.24 under Minnesota Statutes, section 38.02,
13.25 subdivision 1. Aid payments to county and
13.26 district agricultural societies and associations
13.27 must be disbursed no later than July 15 of each
13.28 year. These payments are the amount of aid
13.29 from the state for an annual fair held in the
13.30 previous calendar year.

13.31 (b) \$350,000 the first year and \$350,000 the
13.32 second year are for grants to the Minnesota
13.33 Agricultural Education Leadership Council

15.18 Council for programs of the council under
15.19 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 41D.

15.20 (c) \$2,000 the first year is for a grant to the
15.21 Minnesota State Poultry Association. This is
15.22 a onetime appropriation. Notwithstanding
15.23 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any
15.24 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the
15.25 end of the first year and is available for the
15.26 second year.

15.27 (d) \$18,000 the first year and \$18,000 the
15.28 second year are for grants to the Minnesota
15.29 Livestock Breeders Association. This is a
15.30 onetime appropriation.

15.31 (e) \$60,000 the first year and \$60,000 the
15.32 second year are for grants to the Northern
15.33 Crops Institute to purchase equipment.

16.1 (f) \$34,000 the first year and \$34,000 the
16.2 second year are for grants to the Minnesota
16.3 State Horticultural Society. This is a onetime
16.4 appropriation.

16.5 (g) \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the
16.6 second year are appropriated from the general
16.7 fund to the commissioner of agriculture for
16.8 grants to the Minnesota Turf Seed Council for
16.9 basic and applied research on: (1) the
16.10 improved production of forage and turf seed
16.11 related to new and improved varieties; and (2)
16.12 native plants, including plant breeding,
16.13 nutrient management, pest management,
16.14 disease management, yield, and viability. The
16.15 Minnesota Turf Seed Council may subcontract
16.16 with a qualified third party for some or all of
16.17 the basic or applied research. Any
16.18 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the
16.19 end of the first year and is available in the
16.20 second year. The Minnesota Turf Seed Council
16.21 must prepare a report outlining the use of the
16.22 grant money and related accomplishments. No
16.23 later than January 15, 2025, the council must
16.24 submit the report to the chairs and ranking
16.25 minority members of the legislative

13.34 for programs of the council under Minnesota
13.35 Statutes, chapter 41D.

16.26 committees and divisions with jurisdiction
16.27 over agriculture finance and policy.

16.28 (h) \$200,000 the first year and \$200,000 the
16.29 second year are for grants to GreenSeam for
16.30 assistance to agriculture-related businesses to
16.31 support business retention and development,
16.32 business attraction and creation, talent
16.33 development and attraction, and regional
16.34 branding and promotion. These are onetime
16.35 appropriations. No later than December 1,
17.1 2024, and December 1, 2025, GreenSeam
17.2 must report to the chairs and ranking minority
17.3 members of the legislative committees with
17.4 jurisdiction over agriculture and rural
17.5 development with information on new and
17.6 existing businesses supported, number of new
17.7 jobs created in the region, new educational
17.8 partnerships and programs supported, and
17.9 regional branding and promotional efforts.

17.10 (i) \$1,950,000 the first year and \$1,950,000
17.11 the second year are for grants to Second
17.12 Harvest Heartland on behalf of Minnesota's
17.13 six Feeding America food banks for the
17.14 following purposes:

17.15 (1) at least \$850,000 each year must be
17.16 allocated to purchase milk for distribution to
17.17 Minnesota's food shelves and other charitable
17.18 organizations that are eligible to receive food
17.19 from the food banks. Milk purchased under
17.20 the grants must be acquired from Minnesota
17.21 milk processors and based on low-cost bids.
17.22 The milk must be allocated to each Feeding
17.23 America food bank serving Minnesota
17.24 according to the formula used in the
17.25 distribution of United States Department of
17.26 Agriculture commodities under The
17.27 Emergency Food Assistance Program. Second
17.28 Harvest Heartland may enter into contracts or
17.29 agreements with food banks for shared funding
17.30 or reimbursement of the direct purchase of

14.8 (d) \$1,950,000 the first year and \$1,950,000
14.9 the second year are for grants to Second
14.10 Harvest Heartland on behalf of Minnesota's
14.11 six Feeding America food banks for the
14.12 following:

14.13 (1) to purchase milk for distribution to
14.14 Minnesota's food shelves and other charitable
14.15 organizations that are eligible to receive food
14.16 from the food banks. Milk purchased under
14.17 the grants must be acquired from Minnesota
14.18 milk processors and based on low-cost bids.
14.19 The milk must be allocated to each Feeding
14.20 America food bank serving Minnesota
14.21 according to the formula used in the
14.22 distribution of United States Department of
14.23 Agriculture commodities under The
14.24 Emergency Food Assistance Program. Second
14.25 Harvest Heartland may enter into contracts or
14.26 agreements with food banks for shared funding
14.27 or reimbursement of the direct purchase of
14.28 milk. Each food bank that receives funding

17.31 milk. Each food bank that receives funding
17.32 under this clause may use up to two percent
17.33 for administrative expenses. Notwithstanding
17.34 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any
18.1 unencumbered balance the first year does not
18.2 cancel and is available the second year;

18.3 (2) to compensate agricultural producers and
18.4 processors for costs incurred to harvest and
18.5 package for transfer surplus fruits, vegetables,
18.6 and other agricultural commodities that would
18.7 otherwise go unharvested, be discarded, or be
18.8 sold in a secondary market. Surplus
18.9 commodities must be distributed statewide to
18.10 food shelves and other charitable organizations
18.11 that are eligible to receive food from the food
18.12 banks. Surplus food acquired under this clause
18.13 must be from Minnesota producers and
18.14 processors. Second Harvest Heartland may
18.15 use up to 15 percent of each grant awarded
18.16 under this clause for administrative and
18.17 transportation expenses; and

18.18 (3) to purchase and distribute protein products,
18.19 including but not limited to pork, poultry, beef,
18.20 dry legumes, cheese, and eggs to Minnesota's
18.21 food shelves and other charitable organizations
18.22 that are eligible to receive food from the food
18.23 banks. Second Harvest Heartland may use up
18.24 to two percent of each grant awarded under
18.25 this clause for administrative expenses. Protein
18.26 products purchased under the grants must be
18.27 acquired from Minnesota processors and
18.28 producers.

18.29 Second Harvest Heartland must submit
18.30 quarterly reports to the commissioner and the
18.31 chairs and ranking minority members of the
18.32 legislative committees with jurisdiction over
18.33 agriculture finance in the form prescribed by
18.34 the commissioner. The reports must include
18.35 but are not limited to information on the
19.1 expenditure of funds, the amount of milk or
19.2 other commodities purchased, and the

14.29 under this clause may use up to two percent
14.30 for administrative expenses;

14.31 (2) to compensate agricultural producers and
14.32 processors for costs incurred to harvest and
14.33 package for transfer surplus fruits, vegetables,
14.34 and other agricultural commodities that would
14.35 otherwise go unharvested, be discarded, or be
15.1 sold in a secondary market. Surplus
15.2 commodities must be distributed statewide to
15.3 food shelves and other charitable organizations
15.4 that are eligible to receive food from the food
15.5 banks. Surplus food acquired under this clause
15.6 must be from Minnesota producers,
15.7 processors, and food hubs. Second Harvest
15.8 Heartland may use up to 15 percent of each
15.9 grant awarded under this clause for
15.10 administrative and transportation expenses;
15.11 and

15.12 (3) to purchase and distribute protein products,
15.13 including but not limited to pork, poultry, beef,
15.14 dry legumes, cheese, and eggs to Minnesota's
15.15 food shelves and other charitable organizations
15.16 that are eligible to receive food from the food
15.17 banks. Second Harvest Heartland may use up
15.18 to two percent of each grant awarded under
15.19 this clause for administrative expenses. Protein
15.20 products purchased under the grants must be
15.21 acquired from Minnesota processors,
15.22 producers, and food hubs.

15.23 Of the amount appropriated under this
15.24 paragraph, at least \$850,000 each year must
15.25 be allocated under clause (1) and at least
15.26 \$100,000 each year must be used to purchase
15.27 eligible items from food hubs that aggregate
15.28 food produced by emerging farmers.
15.29 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section
15.30 16A.28, any unencumbered balance the first
15.31 year does not cancel and is available in the

19.3 organizations to which this food was
19.4 distributed. By January 15 each year, the
19.5 commissioner must submit a report on the
19.6 grants awarded under this paragraph to the
19.7 chairs and ranking minority members of the
19.8 legislative committees and divisions with
19.9 jurisdiction over agriculture policy and
19.10 finance. The base for this appropriation is
19.11 \$1,700,000 for fiscal year 2026 and thereafter.

19.12 (j) \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the
19.13 second year are for grants to the Southern
19.14 Minnesota Initiative Foundation to promote
19.15 local foods through an annual event that raises
19.16 public awareness of local foods and connects
19.17 local food producers and processors with
19.18 potential buyers.

19.19 (k) \$300,000 the first year and \$300,000 the
19.20 second year are for grants to The Good Acre
19.21 for the Local Emergency Assistance Farmer
19.22 Fund (LEAFF) program to compensate
19.23 emerging farmers for crops donated to hunger
19.24 relief organizations in Minnesota. This is a
19.25 onetime appropriation.

19.26 (l) \$550,000 the first year and \$550,000 the
19.27 second year are for services to beginning and
19.28 emerging farmers to increase connections
19.29 between farmers and market opportunities
19.30 throughout the state. This appropriation may
19.31 be used for grants, translation services,
19.32 training programs, or other purposes in line
19.33 with the recommendations of the Emerging
19.34 Farmer Working Group established under
19.35 Minnesota Statutes, section 17.055,
20.1 subdivision 1. By January 15 each year, the
20.2 commissioner must submit a report on the
20.3 grants awarded under this paragraph to the
20.4 chairs and ranking minority members of the
20.5 legislative committees and divisions with
20.6 jurisdiction over agriculture policy and

15.32 second year. Second Harvest Heartland must
15.33 submit quarterly reports to the commissioner
15.34 and the chairs and ranking minority members
15.35 of the legislative committees with jurisdiction
16.1 over agriculture finance in the form prescribed
16.2 by the commissioner. The reports must include
16.3 but are not limited to information on the
16.4 expenditure of funds, the amount of milk or
16.5 other commodities purchased, and the
16.6 organizations to which this food was
16.7 distributed.

16.15 (f) \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the
16.16 second year are for grants to the Southern
16.17 Minnesota Initiative Foundation to promote
16.18 local foods through an annual event that raises
16.19 public awareness of local foods and connects
16.20 local food producers and processors with
16.21 potential buyers.

16.8 (e) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the
16.9 second year are for grants to The Good Acre
16.10 for the Local Emergency Assistance Farmer
16.11 Fund program to compensate emerging
16.12 farmers for crops donated to hunger relief
16.13 organizations in Minnesota. This is a onetime
16.14 appropriation.

16.22 (g) \$400,000 the first year and \$400,000 the
16.23 second year are to expand the Emerging
16.24 Farmer Office. The Emerging Farmer Office
16.25 must engage and support emerging farmers
16.26 regarding resources and opportunities
16.27 available through the Department of
16.28 Agriculture and throughout the state. For
16.29 purposes of this paragraph, "emerging farmer"
16.30 has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes,
16.31 section 17.055, subdivision 1. Of the amount
16.32 appropriated each year, \$25,000 is for
16.33 translation services.

20.7 finance. The base for this appropriation is
20.8 \$350,000 for fiscal year 2026 and thereafter.

20.9 (m) \$337,000 the first year and \$337,000 the
20.10 second year are for farm advocate services.
20.11 Of these amounts, \$50,000 the first year and
20.12 \$50,000 the second year are for the
20.13 continuation of the farmland transition
20.14 programs and may be used for grants to
20.15 farmland access teams to provide technical
20.16 assistance to potential beginning farmers.
20.17 Farmland access teams must assist existing
20.18 farmers and beginning farmers with
20.19 transitioning farm ownership and farm
20.20 operation. Services provided by teams may
20.21 include but are not limited to mediation
20.22 assistance, designing contracts, financial
20.23 planning, tax preparation, estate planning, and
20.24 housing assistance.

20.25 (n) \$260,000 the first year and \$260,000 the
20.26 second year are for a pass-through grant to
20.27 Region Five Development Commission to
20.28 provide, in collaboration with Farm Business
20.29 Management, statewide mental health
20.30 counseling support to Minnesota farm
20.31 operators, families, and employees, and
20.32 individuals who work with Minnesota farmers
20.33 in a professional capacity. Region Five
20.34 Development Commission may use up to 6.5

17.26 (j) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the
17.27 second year are to award and administer
17.28 beginning farmer equipment and infrastructure
17.29 grants under Minnesota Statutes, section
17.30 17.055.

18.11 (m) \$50,000 the first year is to provide
18.12 technical assistance and leadership in the
18.13 development of a comprehensive and
18.14 well-documented state aquaculture plan. The
18.15 commissioner must provide the state
18.16 aquaculture plan to the legislative committees
18.17 with jurisdiction over agriculture finance and
18.18 policy by February 15, 2025.

16.34 (h) \$337,000 the first year and \$337,000 the
16.35 second year are for farm advocate services.
17.1 Of the amount appropriated each year, \$50,000
17.2 is for the continuation of the farmland
17.3 transition programs and may be used for grants
17.4 to farmland access teams to provide technical
17.5 assistance to potential beginning farmers.
17.6 Farmland access teams must assist existing
17.7 farmers and beginning farmers with
17.8 transitioning farm ownership and farm
17.9 operation. Services provided by teams may
17.10 include but are not limited to mediation
17.11 assistance, designing contracts, financial
17.12 planning, tax preparation, estate planning, and
17.13 housing assistance.

17.14 (i) \$260,000 the first year and \$260,000 the
17.15 second year are for a pass-through grant to
17.16 Region Five Development Commission to
17.17 provide, in collaboration with Farm Business
17.18 Management, statewide mental health
17.19 counseling support to Minnesota farm
17.20 operators, families, and employees, and
17.21 individuals who work with Minnesota farmers
17.22 in a professional capacity. Region Five
17.23 Development Commission may use up to 6.5

21.1 percent of the grant awarded under this
21.2 paragraph for administration.

21.3 (e) \$1,400,000 the first year is for transfer to
21.4 the agricultural emergency account established
21.5 under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.041. This
21.6 is a onetime transfer.

21.7 (p) \$1,084,000 the first year and \$1,500,000
21.8 the second year are to support IT
21.9 modernization efforts, including laying the
21.10 technology foundations needed for improving
21.11 customer interactions with the department for
21.12 licensing and payments. This is a onetime
21.13 appropriation.

21.14 (q) \$1,425,000 the first year and \$1,425,000
21.15 the second year are transferred to the
21.16 agricultural and environmental revolving loan
21.17 account established under Minnesota Statutes,
21.18 section 17.117, subdivision 5a, for low-interest
21.19 loans to farmers, rural landowners, and
21.20 agricultural businesses through the agriculture
21.21 best management practices loan program in
21.22 Minnesota Statutes, section 17.117.

21.23 (r) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the
21.24 second year are for administrative support for
21.25 the Rural Finance Authority.

17.24 percent of the grant awarded under this
17.25 paragraph for administration.

19.25 (q) \$1,000,000 the first year is for transfer to
19.26 the agricultural emergency account established
19.27 under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.041.

19.28 (r) \$1,584,000 the first year and \$1,000,000
19.29 the second year are to support IT
19.30 modernization efforts, including laying the
19.31 technology foundations necessary to improve
19.32 customer licensing and payment interactions
19.33 with the department. This is a onetime
19.34 appropriation.

19.11 (p) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the
19.12 second year are for technical assistance grants
19.13 to certified community development financial
19.14 institutions that participate in United States
19.15 Department of Agriculture loan or grant
19.16 programs for small or emerging farmers,
19.17 including but not limited to the Increasing
19.18 Land, Capital, and Market Access Program.
19.19 For purposes of this paragraph, "emerging
19.20 farmer" has the meaning given in Minnesota
19.21 Statutes, section 17.055, subdivision 1. The
19.22 commissioner may use up to 6.5 percent of
19.23 this appropriation for costs incurred to
19.24 administer the program.

14.1 (e) \$1,425,000 the first year and \$1,425,000
14.2 the second year are for transfer to the
14.3 agricultural and environmental revolving loan
14.4 account established under Minnesota Statutes,
14.5 section 17.117, subdivision 5a, for low-interest
14.6 loans under Minnesota Statutes, section
14.7 17.117.

17.31 (k) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the
17.32 second year are for administrative support for
17.33 the Rural Finance Authority.

21.26 (s) \$14,000,000 the first year is for transfer to
21.27 the grain indemnity account established in
21.28 Minnesota Statutes, section 223.24. This is a
21.29 onetime transfer.

21.30 (t) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
21.31 second year are to maintain the current level
21.32 of service delivery. The base for this
21.33 appropriation is \$600,000 in fiscal year 2026
21.34 and thereafter.

22.1 (u) \$250,000 the first year is for a grant to the
22.2 Board of Regents of the University of
22.3 Minnesota to purchase equipment for the
22.4 Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory to test for
22.5 chronic wasting disease, African swine fever,
22.6 avian influenza, and other animal diseases.
22.7 This is a onetime appropriation.

22.8 (v) \$1,250,000 the first year and \$1,250,000
22.9 the second year are to award down payment
22.10 assistance grants under Minnesota Statutes,
22.11 section 17.133. Of the amount appropriated
22.12 each year, at least \$375,000 is for down

4.20 (g) \$5,000,000 the first year is for transfer to
4.21 the grain indemnity account established under
4.22 Minnesota Statutes, section 223.24.

20.1 (s) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the
20.2 second year are to coordinate climate-related
20.3 activities and services within the Department
20.4 of Agriculture and counterparts in local, state,
20.5 and federal agencies and to hire a full-time
20.6 climate implementation coordinator. The
20.7 climate implementation coordinator must
20.8 coordinate efforts seeking federal funding for
20.9 Minnesota's agricultural climate adaptation
20.10 and mitigation efforts and develop strategic
20.11 partnerships with the private sector and
20.12 nongovernment organizations.

20.28 (u) \$2,500,000 the first year and \$2,500,000
20.29 the second year are to maintain the current
20.30 level of service delivery. The base for this
20.31 appropriation is \$3,011,000 in fiscal year 2026
20.32 and \$3,011,000 in fiscal year 2027.

20.13 (t) \$250,000 the first year is for a grant to the
20.14 Board of Regents of the University of
20.15 Minnesota to purchase equipment for the
20.16 Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory to test for
20.17 chronic wasting disease, African swine fever,
20.18 avian influenza, and other animal diseases.
20.19 The Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory must
20.20 report expenditures under this paragraph to
20.21 the legislative committees with jurisdiction
20.22 over agriculture finance and higher education
20.23 with a report submitted by January 3, 2024,
20.24 and a final report submitted by September 1,
20.25 2025. The reports must include a list of
20.26 equipment purchased, including the cost of
20.27 each item.

17.34 (l) \$750,000 the first year and \$750,000 the
17.35 second year are to award and administer down
18.1 payment assistance grants under Minnesota
18.2 Statutes, section 17.133, to emerging farmers
18.3 as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section

22.13 payment assistance grants to emerging
22.14 farmers. If the commissioner has not awarded
22.15 \$375,000 to emerging farmers by March 1
22.16 each year, the commissioner may award
22.17 remaining funds to any eligible farmer. By
22.18 January 15 each year, the commissioner must
22.19 submit a report on the grants awarded under
22.20 this paragraph to the chairs and ranking
22.21 minority members of the legislative
22.22 committees and divisions with jurisdiction
22.23 over agriculture policy and finance.
22.24 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section
22.25 16A.28, the first year appropriation is
22.26 available until June 30, 2025, and the second
22.27 year appropriation is available until June 30,
22.28 2026. The base for this appropriation is
22.29 \$750,000 for fiscal year 2026 and thereafter.

22.30 (w) \$222,000 the first year and \$322,000 the
22.31 second year are appropriated for grants to meat
22.32 and poultry processors to reimburse costs for
22.33 training and retention of employees. A meat
22.34 processor with 100 full-time equivalent
22.35 employees or fewer is eligible for grant money
23.1 under this section. Grants may be used for
23.2 tuition reimbursement at Minnesota State
23.3 Colleges and Universities, child care stipends,
23.4 retention bonuses, and other related expenses.
23.5 A grant award may not exceed \$5,000 per
23.6 employee. By January 15 each year, the
23.7 commissioner must submit a report on the
23.8 grants awarded under this paragraph to the
23.9 chairs and ranking minority members of the
23.10 legislative committees and divisions with
23.11 jurisdiction over agriculture policy and
23.12 finance. The commissioner may use up to 6.5
23.13 percent of the appropriation each year for
23.14 administration. This is a onetime
23.15 appropriation.

18.4 17.055, subdivision 1. Notwithstanding
18.5 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any
18.6 unencumbered balance at the end of the first
18.7 year does not cancel and is available in the
18.8 second year and appropriations encumbered
18.9 under contract by June 30, 2025, are available
18.10 until June 30, 2027.

18.19 (n) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
18.20 second year are for meat processing training
18.21 and retention incentive grants under section
18.22 6. The commissioner may use up to 6.5
18.23 percent of this appropriation for costs incurred
18.24 to administer the program. This is a onetime
18.25 appropriation.

20.33 (v) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000
20.34 the second year are for transfer to the Board
20.35 of Regents of the University of Minnesota to
21.1 evaluate, propagate, and maintain the genetic

23.16 (x) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the
23.17 second year are appropriated from the general
23.18 fund to the commissioner of agriculture to
23.19 award cooperative grants under Minnesota
23.20 Statutes, section 17.1016. The commissioner
23.21 may use up to 6.5 percent of the appropriation
23.22 each year to administer the grant program.
23.23 This is a onetime appropriation.

23.24 (y) \$100,000 the first year is for grants or other
23.25 forms of technical assistance to meat and
23.26 poultry processors to reimburse the cost of
23.27 attending courses or training and receiving
23.28 technical assistance in fiscal year 2024 that
23.29 supports developing sanitation standard
23.30 operating procedures, hazard analysis and
23.31 critical control points plans, or business plans.
23.32 A meat processor with 50 full-time equivalent
23.33 employees or fewer is eligible for grant money
23.34 under this section. This is a onetime
23.35 appropriation.

24.1 Sec. 3. BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH \$ 6,771,000 \$ 6,931,000

24.2 (a) \$170,000 the first year and \$170,000 the
24.3 second year are to cover increased costs

21.2 diversity of oilseeds, grains, grasses, legumes,
21.3 and other plants including flax, timothy,
21.4 barley, rye, triticale, alfalfa, orchard grass,
21.5 clover, and other species and varieties that
21.6 were in commercial distribution and use in
21.7 Minnesota before 1970, excluding wild rice.
21.8 This effort must also protect traditional seeds
21.9 brought to Minnesota by immigrant
21.10 communities. This appropriation includes
21.11 funding for associated extension and outreach
21.12 to small and Black, Indigenous, and People of
21.13 Color (BIPOC) farmers. This is a onetime
21.14 appropriation.

21.15 (w) The commissioner shall continue to
21.16 increase connections with ethnic minority and
21.17 immigrant farmers to farming opportunities
21.18 and farming programs throughout the state.

6.13 (d) \$200,000 the first year and \$200,000 the
6.14 second year are to award cooperative grants
6.15 under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.1016.
6.16 The commissioner may use up to six percent
6.17 of the appropriation each year to administer
6.18 the grant program.

21.19 Sec. 3. BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH \$ 6,613,000 \$ 6,779,000

24.4 associated with importing companion animals
24.5 from parts of the world with a high prevalence
24.6 of animal diseases.

24.7 (b) \$560,000 the first year and \$560,000 the
24.8 second year are for agricultural emergency
24.9 preparedness and response.

24.10 Sec. 4. AGRICULTURAL UTILIZATION
24.11 RESEARCH INSTITUTE \$ 6,643,000 \$ 4,343,000

24.12 (a) \$1,800,000 the first year is for equipment
24.13 upgrades, equipment replacement, installation
24.14 expenses, and laboratory infrastructure at the
24.15 Agricultural Utilization Research Institute's
24.16 laboratories in the cities of Crookston,
24.17 Marshall, and Waseca. The is a onetime
24.18 appropriation and is available until June 30,
24.19 2026.

21.20 (a) \$560,000 the first year and \$560,000 the
21.21 second year are for agricultural emergency
21.22 preparedness and response. As part of the
21.23 fiscal year 2024 and 2025 reports required
21.24 under Minnesota Statutes, section 35.03, the
21.25 Board of Animal Health must report the
21.26 number of additional staff positions created
21.27 under this paragraph, the number of full-time
21.28 equivalent staff hired under this paragraph and
21.29 their specific expertise and training, and the
21.30 specific types of incidents and animal diseases
21.31 for which the board is preparing.

21.32 (b) \$6,000 the first year and \$6,000 the second
21.33 year are for meeting expenses for the
21.34 additional board members.

22.1 (c) \$166,000 the first year and \$332,000 the
22.2 second year are to maintain the current level
22.3 of service delivery.

22.4 Sec. 4. AGRICULTURAL UTILIZATION
22.5 RESEARCH INSTITUTE \$ 5,643,000 \$ 4,343,000

22.6 (a) \$300,000 the first year is for equipment
22.7 upgrades, equipment replacement, installation
22.8 expenses, and laboratory infrastructure at the
22.9 Agricultural Utilization Research Institute's
22.10 laboratories in the cities of Crookston,
22.11 Marshall, and Waseca.

22.12 (b) \$1,000,000 the first year is to replace
22.13 analytical and processing equipment and make
22.14 corresponding facility upgrades at Agricultural
22.15 Utilization Research Institute facilities in the
22.16 cities of Marshall and Waseca. This is a
22.17 onetime appropriation and is available until
22.18 June 30, 2026.

24.20 (b) \$500,000 the first year is for renewable
24.21 natural gas and anaerobic digestion projects.
24.22 The is a onetime appropriation and is available
24.23 until June 30, 2026.

24.24 Sec. 5. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 3, article 1, section 2, subdivision 5, as
24.25 amended by Laws 2022, chapter 95, article 1, section 1, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

24.26	Subd. 5. Administration and Financial		
24.27	Assistance	11,477,000	13,429,000

24.28 (a) \$474,000 the first year and \$474,000 the
24.29 second year are for payments to county and
24.30 district agricultural societies and associations
24.31 under Minnesota Statutes, section 38.02,
24.32 subdivision 1. Aid payments to county and
24.33 district agricultural societies and associations
24.34 shall be disbursed no later than July 15 of each
25.1 year. These payments are the amount of aid
25.2 from the state for an annual fair held in the
25.3 previous calendar year.

25.4 (b) \$387,000 the first year and \$337,000 the
25.5 second year are for farm advocate services.
25.6 Of these amounts, \$100,000 the first year and
25.7 \$50,000 the second year are for a pilot
25.8 program creating farmland access teams to
25.9 provide technical assistance to potential
25.10 beginning farmers. The farmland access teams
25.11 must assist existing farmers and beginning
25.12 farmers on transitioning farm ownership and
25.13 operation. Services provided by teams may
25.14 include but are not limited to providing
25.15 mediation assistance, designing contracts,
25.16 financial planning, tax preparation, estate
25.17 planning, and housing assistance. Of this
25.18 amount for farm transitions, up to \$50,000 the
25.19 first year may be used to upgrade the
25.20 Minnesota FarmLink web application that
25.21 connects farmers looking for land with farmers
25.22 looking to transition their land.

22.19 (c) \$300,000 the first year and \$300,000 the
22.20 second year are to maintain the current level
22.21 of service delivery.

22.22 Sec. 5. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 3, article 1, section 2, subdivision 5, as
22.23 amended by Laws 2022, chapter 95, article 1, section 1, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

22.24	Subd. 5. Administration and Financial		
22.25	Assistance	11,477,000	13,429,000

22.26 (a) \$474,000 the first year and \$474,000 the
22.27 second year are for payments to county and
22.28 district agricultural societies and associations
22.29 under Minnesota Statutes, section 38.02,
22.30 subdivision 1. Aid payments to county and
22.31 district agricultural societies and associations
22.32 shall be disbursed no later than July 15 of each
22.33 year. These payments are the amount of aid
23.1 from the state for an annual fair held in the
23.2 previous calendar year.

23.3 (b) \$387,000 the first year and \$337,000 the
23.4 second year are for farm advocate services.
23.5 Of these amounts, \$100,000 the first year and
23.6 \$50,000 the second year are for a pilot
23.7 program creating farmland access teams to
23.8 provide technical assistance to potential
23.9 beginning farmers. The farmland access teams
23.10 must assist existing farmers and beginning
23.11 farmers on transitioning farm ownership and
23.12 operation. Services provided by teams may
23.13 include but are not limited to providing
23.14 mediation assistance, designing contracts,
23.15 financial planning, tax preparation, estate
23.16 planning, and housing assistance. Of this
23.17 amount for farm transitions, up to \$50,000 the
23.18 first year may be used to upgrade the
23.19 Minnesota FarmLink web application that
23.20 connects farmers looking for land with farmers
23.21 looking to transition their land.

25.23 (c) \$47,000 the first year and \$47,000 the
25.24 second year are for grants to the Northern
25.25 Crops Institute that may be used to purchase
25.26 equipment. These are onetime appropriations.

25.27 (d) \$238,000 the first year and \$260,000 the
25.28 second year are for a pass-through grant to
25.29 Region Five Development Commission to
25.30 provide, in collaboration with Farm Business
25.31 Management, statewide mental health
25.32 counseling support to Minnesota farm
25.33 operators, families, and employees, and
25.34 individuals who work with Minnesota farmers
25.35 in a professional capacity. Region Five
26.1 Development Commission may use up to 6.5
26.2 percent of the grant awarded under this
26.3 paragraph for administration. The base for this
26.4 appropriation is \$260,000 in fiscal year 2024
26.5 and later.

26.6 (e) \$1,700,000 the first year and \$1,700,000
26.7 the second year are for grants to Second
26.8 Harvest Heartland on behalf of Minnesota's
26.9 six Feeding America food banks for the
26.10 following:

26.11 (1) to purchase milk for distribution to
26.12 Minnesota's food shelves and other charitable
26.13 organizations that are eligible to receive food
26.14 from the food banks. Milk purchased under
26.15 the grants must be acquired from Minnesota
26.16 milk processors and based on low-cost bids.
26.17 The milk must be allocated to each Feeding
26.18 America food bank serving Minnesota
26.19 according to the formula used in the
26.20 distribution of United States Department of
26.21 Agriculture commodities under The
26.22 Emergency Food Assistance Program. Second
26.23 Harvest Heartland may enter into contracts or
26.24 agreements with food banks for shared funding
26.25 or reimbursement of the direct purchase of
26.26 milk. Each food bank that receives funding
26.27 under this clause may use up to two percent
26.28 for administrative expenses;

23.22 (c) \$47,000 the first year and \$47,000 the
23.23 second year are for grants to the Northern
23.24 Crops Institute that may be used to purchase
23.25 equipment. These are onetime appropriations.

23.26 (d) \$238,000 the first year and \$260,000 the
23.27 second year are for a pass-through grant to
23.28 Region Five Development Commission to
23.29 provide, in collaboration with Farm Business
23.30 Management, statewide mental health
23.31 counseling support to Minnesota farm
23.32 operators, families, and employees, and
23.33 individuals who work with Minnesota farmers
23.34 in a professional capacity. Region Five
23.35 Development Commission may use up to 6.5
24.1 percent of the grant awarded under this
24.2 paragraph for administration. The base for this
24.3 appropriation is \$260,000 in fiscal year 2024
24.4 and later.

24.5 (e) \$1,700,000 the first year and \$1,700,000
24.6 the second year are for grants to Second
24.7 Harvest Heartland on behalf of Minnesota's
24.8 six Feeding America food banks for the
24.9 following:

24.10 (1) to purchase milk for distribution to
24.11 Minnesota's food shelves and other charitable
24.12 organizations that are eligible to receive food
24.13 from the food banks. Milk purchased under
24.14 the grants must be acquired from Minnesota
24.15 milk processors and based on low-cost bids.
24.16 The milk must be allocated to each Feeding
24.17 America food bank serving Minnesota
24.18 according to the formula used in the
24.19 distribution of United States Department of
24.20 Agriculture commodities under The
24.21 Emergency Food Assistance Program. Second
24.22 Harvest Heartland may enter into contracts or
24.23 agreements with food banks for shared funding
24.24 or reimbursement of the direct purchase of
24.25 milk. Each food bank that receives funding
24.26 under this clause may use up to two percent
24.27 for administrative expenses;

26.29 (2) to compensate agricultural producers and
26.30 processors for costs incurred to harvest and
26.31 package for transfer surplus fruits, vegetables,
26.32 and other agricultural commodities that would
26.33 otherwise go unharvested, be discarded, or
26.34 sold in a secondary market. Surplus
26.35 commodities must be distributed statewide to
27.1 food shelves and other charitable organizations
27.2 that are eligible to receive food from the food
27.3 banks. Surplus food acquired under this clause
27.4 must be from Minnesota producers and
27.5 processors. Second Harvest Heartland may
27.6 use up to 15 percent of each grant awarded
27.7 under this clause for administrative and
27.8 transportation expenses; and

27.9 (3) to purchase and distribute protein products,
27.10 including but not limited to pork, poultry, beef,
27.11 dry legumes, cheese, and eggs to Minnesota's
27.12 food shelves and other charitable organizations
27.13 that are eligible to receive food from the food
27.14 banks. Second Harvest Heartland may use up
27.15 to two percent of each grant awarded under
27.16 this clause for administrative expenses. Protein
27.17 products purchased under the grants must be
27.18 acquired from Minnesota processors and
27.19 producers.

27.20 Of the amount appropriated under this
27.21 paragraph, at least \$600,000 each year must
27.22 be allocated under clause (1). Notwithstanding
27.23 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any
27.24 unencumbered balance the first year does not
27.25 cancel and is available in the second year.
27.26 Second Harvest Heartland must submit
27.27 quarterly reports to the commissioner and the
27.28 chairs and ranking minority members of the
27.29 legislative committees with jurisdiction over
27.30 agriculture finance in the form prescribed by
27.31 the commissioner. The reports must include
27.32 but are not limited to information on the
27.33 expenditure of funds, the amount of milk or
27.34 other commodities purchased, and the

24.28 (2) to compensate agricultural producers and
24.29 processors for costs incurred to harvest and
24.30 package for transfer surplus fruits, vegetables,
24.31 and other agricultural commodities that would
24.32 otherwise go unharvested, be discarded, or
24.33 sold in a secondary market. Surplus
24.34 commodities must be distributed statewide to
24.35 food shelves and other charitable organizations
25.1 that are eligible to receive food from the food
25.2 banks. Surplus food acquired under this clause
25.3 must be from Minnesota producers and
25.4 processors. Second Harvest Heartland may
25.5 use up to 15 percent of each grant awarded
25.6 under this clause for administrative and
25.7 transportation expenses; and

25.8 (3) to purchase and distribute protein products,
25.9 including but not limited to pork, poultry, beef,
25.10 dry legumes, cheese, and eggs to Minnesota's
25.11 food shelves and other charitable organizations
25.12 that are eligible to receive food from the food
25.13 banks. Second Harvest Heartland may use up
25.14 to two percent of each grant awarded under
25.15 this clause for administrative expenses. Protein
25.16 products purchased under the grants must be
25.17 acquired from Minnesota processors and
25.18 producers.

25.19 Of the amount appropriated under this
25.20 paragraph, at least \$600,000 each year must
25.21 be allocated under clause (1). Notwithstanding
25.22 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any
25.23 unencumbered balance the first year does not
25.24 cancel and is available in the second year.
25.25 Second Harvest Heartland must submit
25.26 quarterly reports to the commissioner and the
25.27 chairs and ranking minority members of the
25.28 legislative committees with jurisdiction over
25.29 agriculture finance in the form prescribed by
25.30 the commissioner. The reports must include
25.31 but are not limited to information on the
25.32 expenditure of funds, the amount of milk or
25.33 other commodities purchased, and the

28.1 organizations to which this food was
28.2 distributed.

28.3 (f) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the
28.4 second year are for grants to the Minnesota
28.5 Agricultural Education and Leadership
28.6 Council for programs of the council under
28.7 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 41D.

28.8 (g) \$1,437,000 the first year and \$1,437,000
28.9 the second year are for transfer to the
28.10 agricultural and environmental revolving loan
28.11 account established under Minnesota Statutes,
28.12 section 17.117, subdivision 5a, for low-interest
28.13 loans under Minnesota Statutes, section
28.14 17.117. The base for appropriations under this
28.15 paragraph in fiscal year 2024 and thereafter
28.16 is \$1,425,000. The commissioner must
28.17 examine how the department could use up to
28.18 one-third of the amount transferred to the
28.19 agricultural and environmental revolving loan
28.20 account under this paragraph to award grants
28.21 to rural landowners to replace septic systems
28.22 that inadequately protect groundwater. No
28.23 later than February 1, 2022, the commissioner
28.24 must report to the legislative committees with
28.25 jurisdiction over agriculture finance and
28.26 environment finance on the results of the
28.27 examination required under this paragraph.
28.28 The commissioner's report may include other
28.29 funding sources for septic system replacement
28.30 that are available to rural landowners.

28.31 (h) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the
28.32 second year are for grants to the Center for
28.33 Rural Policy and Development. These are
28.34 onetime appropriations.

29.1 (i) \$150,000 the first year is to provide grants
29.2 to Central Lakes College for the purposes of
29.3 designing, building, and offering credentials
29.4 in the area of meat cutting and butchery that
29.5 align with industry needs as advised by local
29.6 industry advisory councils. Notwithstanding
29.7 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any

25.34 organizations to which this food was
25.35 distributed.

26.1 (f) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the
26.2 second year are for grants to the Minnesota
26.3 Agricultural Education and Leadership
26.4 Council for programs of the council under
26.5 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 41D.

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26.16 one-third of the amount transferred to the
26.17 agricultural and environmental revolving loan
26.18 account under this paragraph to award grants
26.19 to rural landowners to replace septic systems
26.20 that inadequately protect groundwater. No
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26.24 environment finance on the results of the
26.25 examination required under this paragraph.
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26.35 designing, building, and offering credentials
27.1 in the area of meat cutting and butchery that
27.2 align with industry needs as advised by local
27.3 industry advisory councils. Notwithstanding
27.4 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any

29.8 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the
29.9 end of the first year and is available for the
29.10 second year. The commissioner may only
29.11 award a grant under this paragraph if the grant
29.12 is matched by a like amount from another
29.13 funding source. The commissioner must seek
29.14 matching dollars from Minnesota State
29.15 Colleges and Universities or other entities.
29.16 The appropriation is onetime and is available
29.17 until June 30, 2024. Any money remaining on
29.18 June 30, 2024, must be transferred to the
29.19 agricultural growth, research, and innovation
29.20 program under Minnesota Statutes, section
29.21 41A.12, and is available until June 30, 2025.
29.22 Grants may be used for costs including but
29.23 not limited to:

29.24 (1) facility renovation to accommodate meat
29.25 cutting;

29.26 (2) curriculum design and approval from the
29.27 Higher Learning Commission;

29.28 (3) program operational start-up costs;

29.29 (4) equipment required for a meat cutting
29.30 program; and

29.31 (5) meat handling start-up costs in regard to
29.32 meat access and market channel building.

29.33 No later than January 15, 2023, Central Lakes
29.34 College must submit a report outlining the use
30.1 of grant money to the chairs and ranking
30.2 minority members of the legislative
30.3 committees and divisions with jurisdiction
30.4 over agriculture and higher education.

30.5 (j) \$2,000 the first year is for grants to the
30.6 Minnesota State Poultry Association. This is
30.7 a onetime appropriation. Notwithstanding
30.8 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any
30.9 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the
30.10 end of the first year and is available for the
30.11 second year.

27.5 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the
27.6 end of the first year and is available for the
27.7 second year. The commissioner may only
27.8 award a grant under this paragraph if the grant
27.9 is matched by a like amount from another
27.10 funding source. The commissioner must seek
27.11 matching dollars from Minnesota State
27.12 Colleges and Universities or other entities.
27.13 The appropriation is onetime and is available
27.14 until June 30, 2024. Any money remaining on
27.15 June 30, 2024, must be transferred to the
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27.17 program under Minnesota Statutes, section
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27.24 Higher Learning Commission;

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27.26 (4) equipment required for a meat cutting
27.27 program; and

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27.29 meat access and market channel building.

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27.32 of grant money to the chairs and ranking
27.33 minority members of the legislative
28.1 committees and divisions with jurisdiction
28.2 over agriculture and higher education.

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28.4 Minnesota State Poultry Association. This is
28.5 a onetime appropriation. Notwithstanding
28.6 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any
28.7 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the
28.8 end of the first year and is available for the
28.9 second year.

30.12 (k) \$17,000 the first year and \$17,000 the
30.13 second year are for grants to the Minnesota
30.14 State Horticultural Society. These are onetime
30.15 appropriations.

30.16 (l) \$18,000 the first year and \$18,000 the
30.17 second year are for grants to the Minnesota
30.18 Livestock Breeders Association. These are
30.19 onetime appropriations.

30.20 (m) The commissioner shall continue to
30.21 increase connections with ethnic minority and
30.22 immigrant farmers to farming opportunities
30.23 and farming programs throughout the state.

30.24 (n) \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the
30.25 second year are for grants to the Southern
30.26 Minnesota Initiative Foundation to promote
30.27 local foods through an annual event that raises
30.28 public awareness of local foods and connects
30.29 local food producers and processors with
30.30 potential buyers.

30.31 (o) \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the
30.32 second year are for grants to Greater Mankato
30.33 Growth, Inc., for assistance to
30.34 agriculture-related businesses to promote jobs,
31.1 innovation, and synergy development. These
31.2 are onetime appropriations.

31.3 (p) \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the
31.4 second year are for grants to the Minnesota
31.5 Turf Seed Council for basic and applied
31.6 research. The Minnesota Turf Seed Council
31.7 may subcontract with a qualified third party
31.8 for some or all of the basic or applied research.
31.9 No later than January 15, 2023, the Minnesota
31.10 Turf Seed Council must submit a report
31.11 outlining the use of the grant money and
31.12 related accomplishments to the chairs and
31.13 ranking minority members of the legislative
31.14 committees with jurisdiction over agriculture.
31.15 These are onetime appropriations. Any
31.16 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the
31.17 end of the first year and is available for the
31.18 second year.

28.10 (k) \$17,000 the first year and \$17,000 the
28.11 second year are for grants to the Minnesota
28.12 State Horticultural Society. These are onetime
28.13 appropriations.

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28.16 Livestock Breeders Association. These are
28.17 onetime appropriations.

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28.20 immigrant farmers to farming opportunities
28.21 and farming programs throughout the state.

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28.28 potential buyers.

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29.8 Turf Seed Council must submit a report
29.9 outlining the use of the grant money and
29.10 related accomplishments to the chairs and
29.11 ranking minority members of the legislative
29.12 committees with jurisdiction over agriculture.
29.13 These are onetime appropriations. Any
29.14 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the
29.15 end of the first year and is available for the
29.16 second year.

31.19 (q) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the
31.20 second year are to establish an emerging
31.21 farmer office and hire a full-time emerging
31.22 farmer outreach coordinator. The emerging
31.23 farmer outreach coordinator must engage and
31.24 support emerging farmers regarding resources
31.25 and opportunities available throughout the
31.26 Department of Agriculture and the state. For
31.27 purposes of this paragraph, "emerging farmer"
31.28 has the meaning provided in Minnesota
31.29 Statutes, section 17.055, subdivision 1. Of the
31.30 amount appropriated each year, \$25,000 is for
31.31 translation services for farmers and cottage
31.32 food producers.

31.33 (r) \$222,000 the first year and \$286,000 the
31.34 second year are to maintain the current level
31.35 of service delivery.

32.1 (s) \$827,000 the second year is to award and
32.2 administer grants to:

32.3 (1) organizations to provide technical and
32.4 culturally appropriate services to emerging
32.5 farmers and related businesses;

32.6 (2) organizations to help emerging farmers
32.7 pay for up to 65 percent of premium expenses
32.8 each year up to two years under the federal
32.9 micro farm insurance program; and

32.10 (3) The Good Acre for the Local Emergency
32.11 Assistance Farmer Fund (LEAFF) program to
32.12 compensate emerging farmers for crops
32.13 donated to hunger relief organizations in
32.14 Minnesota.

32.15 This is a onetime appropriation and is
32.16 available until June 30, 2024.

32.17 (t) \$750,000 the second year is to support the
32.18 IT modernization efforts, including laying the
32.19 technology foundations needed for improving
32.20 customer interactions with the department for
32.21 licensing and payments. The base for this

29.17 (q) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the
29.18 second year are to establish an emerging
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29.20 farmer outreach coordinator. The emerging
29.21 farmer outreach coordinator must engage and
29.22 support emerging farmers regarding resources
29.23 and opportunities available throughout the
29.24 Department of Agriculture and the state. For
29.25 purposes of this paragraph, "emerging farmer"
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29.27 Statutes, section 17.055, subdivision 1. Of the
29.28 amount appropriated each year, \$25,000 is for
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30.14 available until June 30, 2024.

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30.16 IT modernization efforts, including laying the
30.17 technology foundations needed for improving
30.18 customer interactions with the department for
30.19 licensing and payments. The base for this

32.22 appropriation is \$584,000 in fiscal year 2024
32.23 and \$0 in fiscal year 2025.

32.24 (u) \$1,500,000 the first year is for transfer to
32.25 the agricultural emergency account established
32.26 under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.041. This
32.27 is a onetime transfer. This transfer is in
32.28 addition to the appropriations made in Laws
32.29 2022, chapter 47, section 2.

32.30 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section
32.31 17.041, the commissioner may use the amount
32.32 to be transferred for the purposes identified
32.33 under Laws 2022, chapter 47, section 2,
33.1 paragraph (b). This paragraph expires on
33.2 December 31, 2022.

33.3 (v) \$250,000 in the second year is for a grant
33.4 to the Board of Regents of the University of
33.5 Minnesota to purchase equipment for the
33.6 Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory to test for
33.7 chronic wasting disease, African swine fever,
33.8 avian influenza, and other animal diseases.
33.9 The Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory must
33.10 report expenditures under this paragraph to
33.11 the legislative committees with jurisdiction
33.12 over agriculture finance and higher education
33.13 with initial reports completed by January 3,
33.14 2023, and January 3, 2024, and a final report
33.15 by ~~September 1, 2025~~ December 31, 2024.
33.16 The reports must include a list of equipment
33.17 purchased, including the cost of each item.
33.18 The base for this appropriation is \$250,000 in
33.19 fiscal year 2024 and \$0 in fiscal year 2025.

33.20 (w) \$141,000 the second year is for additional
33.21 funding to administer the beginning farmer
33.22 tax credit. The base for this appropriation is
33.23 \$56,000 in fiscal year 2024 and later.

33.24 (x) \$750,000 the second year is for a grant to
33.25 the Ag Innovation Campus to continue
33.26 construction of a soybean processing and
33.27 research facility. This is a onetime
33.28 appropriation.

30.20 appropriation is \$584,000 in fiscal year 2024
30.21 and \$0 in fiscal year 2025.

30.22 (u) \$1,500,000 the first year is for transfer to
30.23 the agricultural emergency account established
30.24 under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.041. This
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30.26 addition to the appropriations made in Laws
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31.10 over agriculture finance and higher education
31.11 with initial reports completed by January 3,
31.12 2023, and January 3, 2024, and a final report
31.13 by September 1, 2025. The reports must
31.14 include a list of equipment purchased,
31.15 including the cost of each item. The base for
31.16 this appropriation is \$250,000 in fiscal year
31.17 2024 and \$0 in fiscal year 2025.

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31.19 funding to administer the beginning farmer
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31.22 (x) \$750,000 the second year is for a grant to
31.23 the Ag Innovation Campus to continue
31.24 construction of a soybean processing and
31.25 research facility. This is a onetime
31.26 appropriation.

33.29 The commissioner shall submit a report on the
33.30 utilization of the grants to the chairs and
33.31 ranking minority members of the legislative
33.32 committees and divisions with jurisdiction
33.33 over agriculture policy and finance by
33.34 February 1, 2024.

34.1 (y) \$50,000 is added to the base for fiscal year
34.2 2024 and \$0 for fiscal year 2025 to provide
34.3 technical assistance and leadership in the
34.4 development of a comprehensive and
34.5 well-documented state aquaculture plan. The
34.6 commissioner must provide the state
34.7 aquaculture plan to the legislative committees
34.8 with jurisdiction over agriculture finance and
34.9 policy by February 15, 2025.

34.10 (z) \$500,000 the second year is to award and
34.11 administer down payment assistance grants
34.12 under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.133. The
34.13 base for this appropriation is \$750,000 in fiscal
34.14 year 2024 and thereafter.

34.15 (aa) \$350,000 the second year is to provide
34.16 grants to secondary career and technical
34.17 education programs for the purpose of offering
34.18 instruction in meat cutting and butchery. By
34.19 January 15, 2023, the commissioner must
34.20 report to the chairs and ranking minority
34.21 members of the committees with jurisdiction
34.22 over agriculture finance and education finance
34.23 by listing the grants made under this paragraph
34.24 by county and noting the number and amount
34.25 of grant requests not fulfilled. The report may
34.26 include additional information as determined
34.27 by the commissioner, including but not limited
34.28 to information regarding the outcomes
34.29 produced by these grants. If additional grants
34.30 are awarded under this paragraph that were
34.31 not covered in the report due by January 15,
34.32 2023, the commissioner must submit an

31.27 The commissioner shall submit a report on the
31.28 utilization of the grants to the chairs and
31.29 ranking minority members of the legislative
31.30 committees and divisions with jurisdiction
31.31 over agriculture policy and finance by
31.32 February 1, 2024.

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31.35 technical assistance and leadership in the
32.1 development of a comprehensive and
32.2 well-documented state aquaculture plan. The
32.3 commissioner must provide the state
32.4 aquaculture plan to the legislative committees
32.5 with jurisdiction over agriculture finance and
32.6 policy by February 15, 2025.

32.7 (z) \$500,000 the second year is to award and
32.8 administer down payment assistance grants
32.9 under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.133. The
32.10 base for this appropriation is \$750,000 in fiscal
32.11 year 2024 and thereafter. Notwithstanding
32.12 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28,
32.13 appropriations encumbered under contract by
32.14 June 30, 2023, are available until June 30,
32.15 2025.

32.16 (aa) \$350,000 the second year is to provide
32.17 grants to secondary career and technical
32.18 education programs for the purpose of offering
32.19 instruction in meat cutting and butchery. By
32.20 January 15, 2023, the commissioner must
32.21 report to the chairs and ranking minority
32.22 members of the committees with jurisdiction
32.23 over agriculture finance and education finance
32.24 by listing the grants made under this paragraph
32.25 by county and noting the number and amount
32.26 of grant requests not fulfilled. The report may
32.27 include additional information as determined
32.28 by the commissioner, including but not limited
32.29 to information regarding the outcomes
32.30 produced by these grants. If additional grants
32.31 are awarded under this paragraph that were
32.32 not covered in the report due by January 15,
32.33 2023, the commissioner must submit an

34.33 additional report to the chairs and ranking
34.34 minority members of the committees with
34.35 jurisdiction over agriculture finance and
35.1 education finance regarding all grants issued
35.2 under this paragraph by November 1, 2023.
35.3 This is a onetime appropriation. Grants may
35.4 be used for costs, including but not limited to:

35.5 (1) equipment required for a meat cutting
35.6 program;

35.7 (2) facility renovation to accommodate meat
35.8 cutting; and

35.9 (3) training faculty to teach the fundamentals
35.10 of meat processing.

35.11 A grant recipient may be awarded a grant of
35.12 up to \$70,000 and may use up to ten percent
35.13 of the grant for faculty training.

35.14 Priority may be given to applicants who are
35.15 coordinating with meat cutting and butchery
35.16 programs at Minnesota State Colleges and
35.17 Universities system and local industry
35.18 partners.

32.34 additional report to the chairs and ranking
32.35 minority members of the committees with
33.1 jurisdiction over agriculture finance and
33.2 education finance regarding all grants issued
33.3 under this paragraph by November 1, 2023.
33.4 This is a onetime appropriation. Grants may
33.5 be used for costs, including but not limited to:

33.6 (1) equipment required for a meat cutting
33.7 program;

33.8 (2) facility renovation to accommodate meat
33.9 cutting; and

33.10 (3) training faculty to teach the fundamentals
33.11 of meat processing.

33.12 A grant recipient may be awarded a grant of
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33.14 of the grant for faculty training.

33.15 Priority may be given to applicants who are
33.16 coordinating with meat cutting and butchery
33.17 programs at Minnesota State Colleges and
33.18 Universities system and local industry
33.19 partners.

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

33.21 Sec. 6. **GRANTS FOR MEAT PROCESSING TRAINING AND RETENTION**
33.22 **INCENTIVES.**

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

33.25 (b) "Partner organizations" include:

33.26 (1) foundations engaged in economic development;

33.27 (2) community development financial institutions;

33.28 (3) federally recognized economic development districts; and

33.29 (4) community development corporations.

34.1 (c) "Small- to medium-sized meat and poultry processor" means a meat and poultry
34.2 processor licensed by the state of Minnesota or the federal government that has fewer than
34.3 150 employees.

- 34.4 Subd. 2. **Grants.** (a) The commissioner of agriculture must provide grants to partner
34.5 organizations to assist small- to medium-sized meat and poultry processors with hiring and
34.6 training new employees. New employees at eligible meat and poultry processing plants may
34.7 receive up to \$10,000 in the form of tuition reimbursement for programs at Minnesota State
34.8 Colleges and Universities, sign-on bonuses, relocation assistance, retention incentives, child
34.9 care stipends, and other related expenses. Employees at any one meat or poultry processor
34.10 may not receive more than \$50,000 under this paragraph.
- 34.11 (b) Up to 20 percent of a grant to a partner organization may be used for direct services
34.12 to employees, including but not limited to translation services.
- 34.13 (c) Priority must be given to applications from partner organizations working in
34.14 partnership with Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.