ARTICLE 2
AGRICULTURE POLICY

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. Definitions. (a) "Approved agent" means a person authorized by the Department of Agriculture to determine if crop or fence damage was caused by elk and to assign a monetary value to the crop or fence damage.

(b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's authorized representative.

g) "Estimated value" means the current value of crops or fencing as determined by an approved agent.

(d) "Owner" means an individual, firm, corporation, copartnership, or association with an interest in crops or fencing damaged by elk.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Claim form and reporting. (a) The owner must prepare a claim on forms provided by the commissioner and available on the Department of Agriculture's website or by request from the commissioner. The claim form must be filed with the commissioner.

(b) After discovering crop or fence damage suspected to be caused by elk, an owner must promptly notify an approved agent of the damage. To submit a claim for crop or fence damage caused by elk, an owner must complete the required portions of the claim form provided by the commissioner. An owner who has submitted a claim must provide an approved agent with all information required to investigate the crop or fence damage.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2a. Investigation and crop valuation. (a) Upon receiving notification of crop or fence damage suspected to be caused by elk, an approved agent must promptly investigate the damage in a timely manner. An approved agent must make written findings on the claim for crop or fence damage.

OTHER AGRICULTURE STATUTORY CHANGES

Sec. 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

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

(b) "Approved agent" means a person authorized by the Department of Agriculture to determine if crop or fence damage was caused by elk and to assign a monetary value to the crop or fence damage.

(c) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's authorized representative.

d) "Estimated value" means the current value of crops or fencing as determined by an approved agent.

(e) "Owner" means an individual, firm, corporation, copartnership, or association with an interest in crops or fencing damaged by elk.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Claim form and reporting. (a) The owner must prepare a claim on forms provided by the commissioner and available on the Department of Agriculture's website or by request from the commissioner. The claim form must be filed with the commissioner.

(b) After discovering crop or fence damage suspected to be caused by elk, an owner must promptly notify an approved agent of the damage. To submit a claim for crop or fence damage caused by elk, an owner must complete the required portions of the claim form provided by the commissioner. An owner who has submitted a claim must provide an approved agent with all information required to investigate the crop or fence damage.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2a. Investigation and crop valuation. (a) Upon receiving notification of crop or fence damage suspected to be caused by elk, an approved agent must promptly investigate the damage in a timely manner. An approved agent must make written findings on the claim.
form regarding whether the crop was destroyed or damaged by elk. The approved agent's findings must be based on physical and circumstantial evidence, including:

1. the condition of the crop or fence;
2. the presence of elk tracks;
3. the geographic area of the state where the crop or fence damage occurred;
4. any sightings of elk in the area; and
5. any other circumstances that the approved agent considers to be relevant.

(b) The absence of affirmative evidence may be grounds for denial of a claim.

(c) On a claim form, an approved agent must make written findings of the extent of crop or fence damage and, if applicable, the amount of crop destroyed.

(d) For damage to standing crops, an owner may choose to have the approved agent use the method in clause (1) or (2) to complete the claim form and determine the amount of crop loss:

1. to submit a claim form to the commissioner at the time that the suspected elk damage is discovered, the approved agent must record on the claim form: (i) the field's potential yield per acre; (ii) the field's average yield per acre that is expected on the damaged acres; (iii) the estimated value of the crop; and (iv) the total amount of loss. Upon completing the claim form, the approved agent must submit the form to the commissioner;
2. to submit a claim form to the commissioner at the time that the crop is harvested, the approved agent must record on the claim form at the time of the investigation: (i) the percent of crop loss from damage; (ii) the actual yield of the damaged field when the crop is harvested; (iii) the estimated value of the crop; and (iv) the total amount of loss. Upon completing the claim form, the approved agent must submit the form to the commissioner.

(e) For damage to stored crops, an approved agent must record on the claim form: (1) the type and volume of destroyed stored crops; (2) the estimated value of the crop; and (3) the total amount of loss.

(f) For damage to fencing, an approved agent must record on the claim form: (1) the type of materials damaged; (2) the linear feet of the damage; (3) the value of the materials per unit according to National Resource Conservation Service specifications; and (4) the calculated total damage to the fence.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2b. **Claim form.** A completed claim form must be signed by the owner and an approved agent. An approved agent must submit the claim form to the commissioner for the commissioner's review and payment. The commissioner must return an incomplete claim regarding whether the crop or fence was destroyed or damaged by elk. The approved agent's findings must be based on physical and circumstantial evidence, including:

1. the condition of the crop or fence;
2. the presence of elk tracks;
3. the geographic area of the state where the crop or fence damage occurred;
4. any sightings of elk in the area; and
5. any other circumstances that the approved agent considers to be relevant.

(b) The absence of affirmative evidence may be grounds for denial of a claim.

(c) On a claim form, an approved agent must make written findings of the extent of crop or fence damage and, if applicable, the amount of crop destroyed.

(d) For damage to standing crops, an owner may choose to have the approved agent use the method in clause (1) or (2) to complete the claim form and determine the amount of crop loss:

1. to submit a claim form to the commissioner at the time that the suspected elk damage is discovered, the approved agent must record on the claim form: (i) the field's potential yield per acre; (ii) the field's average yield per acre that is expected on the damaged acres; (iii) the estimated value of the crop; and (iv) the total amount of loss. Upon completing the claim form, the approved agent must submit the form to the commissioner;
2. to submit a claim form to the commissioner at the time that the crop is harvested, the approved agent must record on the claim form at the time of the investigation: (i) the percent of crop loss from damage; (ii) the actual yield of the damaged field when the crop is harvested; (iii) the estimated value of the crop; and (iv) the total amount of loss. Upon completing the claim form, the approved agent must submit the form to the commissioner.

(e) For damage to stored crops, an approved agent must record on the claim form: (1) the type and volume of destroyed stored crops; (2) the estimated value of the crop; and (3) the total amount of loss.

(f) For damage to fencing, an approved agent must record on the claim form: (1) the type of materials damaged; (2) the linear feet of the damage; (3) the value of the materials per unit according to National Resource Conservation Service specifications; and (4) the calculated total damage to the fence.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2b. **Claim form.** A completed claim form must be signed by the owner and an approved agent. An approved agent must submit the claim form to the commissioner for the commissioner's review and payment. The commissioner must return an incomplete claim...
form to the approved agent. When returning an incomplete claim form to an approved agent, the commissioner must indicate which information is missing from the claim form.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Compensation. (a) The crop An owner is entitled to the target price or the market price, whichever is greater, estimated value of the damaged or destroyed crop plus adjustments for yield loss determined according to agricultural stabilization and conservation service programs for individual farms, adjusted annually, as determined by the commissioner, upon recommendation of the commissioner's approved agent for the owner's county or fence. Verification of crop or fence damage or destruction by elk may be provided by submitting photographs or other evidence and documentation together with a statement from an independent witness using forms prescribed by the commissioner. The commissioner, upon recommendation of the commissioner's approved agent, shall determine whether the crop damage or destruction or damage to or destruction of a fence surrounding a crop or pasture is caused by elk and, if so, the amount of the crop or fence that is damaged or destroyed. In any fiscal year, an owner may not be compensated for a damaged or destroyed crop or fence surrounding a crop or pasture that is less than $100 in value and may be compensated up to $20,000, as determined under this section, if normal harvest procedures for the area are followed. An owner may not be compensated more than $1,800 per fiscal year for damage to fencing surrounding a crop or pasture.

(b) In any fiscal year, the commissioner may provide compensation for claims filed under this section up to the amount expressly appropriated for this purpose.

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36.18 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 17.055, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Beginning farmer equipment and infrastructure grants. (a) The commissioner may award and administer equipment and infrastructure grants to beginning farmers. The commissioner shall give preference to applicants who are emerging farmers experiencing limited land access as defined in section 17.133, subdivision 1. Grant money may be used for equipment and infrastructure development.

(b) The commissioner shall develop competitive eligibility criteria and may allocate grants on a needs basis.

(c) Grant projects may continue for up to two years.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 17.116, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Eligibility. (a) Grants may only be made to farmers and organizations such as farms, agricultural cooperatives, educational institutions, individuals, or nonprofit organizations, tribal governments, or local units of government residing or located in the state for research or demonstrations on farms in the state;
(b) Grants may only be made for projects that show:

1. the ability to maximize direct or indirect energy savings or production;
2. a positive effect or reduced adverse effect on the environment; or
3. increased profitability for the individual farm by reducing costs or improving marketing opportunities.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 17.133, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

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

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

1. is a resident of Minnesota who intends to acquire farmland located within the state and provide the majority of the day-to-day physical labor and management of the farm;
2. has participated in the business operation of a farm for at least three years;
3. grosses no more than $250,000 per year from the sale of farm products;
4. has not, and whose spouse has not, at any time had a direct or indirect ownership interest in farmland;
5. is not, and whose spouse is not, related by blood or marriage to an owner of the farmland that the individual intends to acquire.

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

(d) "Incubator farm" means a farm where people are given temporary, exclusive, and affordable access to small parcels of land, infrastructure, and often training, for the purposes of honing skills and launching farm businesses.

(e) "Limited land access" means farming without ownership of land and:

1. under a lease or other rental arrangement of no more than three years in duration when the person leasing or renting the land is not related to the lessee or renter by blood or marriage; and
2. a majority of the individuals farming the small parcels of land grow industrial hemp, cannabis, or one or more of the following specialty crops as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture for purposes of the specialty crop block grant program: fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, medicinal plants, culinary herbs and spices, horticulture crops, floriculture crops, and nursery crops.

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farming by renting land from an incubator farm as defined in this section; farming with no current lease or other rental arrangement; or farming where access to land is constrained by Tribal land ownership patterns, treaties, or federal and Tribal laws and regulations.

Limited market access means the majority of the individual's annual farm product sales are direct sales to the consumer.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 17.133, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Report to legislature. No later than December 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the commissioner must provide a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees having jurisdiction over agriculture and rural development, in compliance with sections 3.195 and 3.197, on the farm down payment assistance grants under this section. The report must include:

(1) background information on beginning farmers in Minnesota and any other information that the commissioner and authority find relevant to evaluating the effect of the grants on increasing opportunities for and the number of beginning farmers;

(2) the number and amount of grants;

(3) the geographic distribution of grants by county;

(4) the number of grant recipients who are emerging farmers experiencing limited land access or who have a gross farm profit of $100,000 or less the previous year;

(5) disaggregated data regarding the gender, race, and ethnicity of grant recipients;

(6) the number of farmers who cease to own land and are subject to payment of a penalty, along with the reasons for the land ownership cessation; and

(7) the number and amount of grant applications that exceeded the allocation available in each year.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 17.710, is amended to read:

17.710 AGRICULTURAL CONTRACTS.

(a) A production or marketing contract entered into, renewed, or amended on or after July 1, 2024, between an agricultural producer and a processor, marketer, or other purchaser of agricultural products, including a cooperative organized under chapter 308A
or 308B must not contain provisions that prohibit the producer from disclosing terms, conditions, and prices contained in the contract. Any provision prohibiting disclosure by the producer is void.

(b) A contract entered into, renewed, or amended on or after July 1, 2023, between an agricultural producer and an entity buying, selling, certifying, or otherwise participating in a market for stored carbon must not contain provisions that prohibit the producer from disclosing terms, conditions, and prices contained in the contract. Any provision prohibiting disclosure by the producer is void.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 17.134, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3a. Grant requirements. In addition to the applicable grants management requirements under sections 16B.97 to 16B.991, as a condition of receiving a soil health financial assistance grant under this section, an owner or lessee of farmland must commit to:

(1) if not certified under sections 17.9891 to 17.993, achieve certification no later than 24 months after the grant agreement is fully executed;

(2) not lease or rent the equipment to another for economic gain; and

(3) if selling the equipment, sell the equipment for no more than the owner's or lessee's documented share of the total purchase price.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.005, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1c. Beneficial substance. "Beneficial substance" means any substance or compound other than a primary, secondary, and micro plant nutrient that can be demonstrated by scientific research to be beneficial to one or more species of plants, soil, or media.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.005, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 7b. Diammonium phosphate. "Diammonium phosphate" or "DAP" means a fertilizer containing 18 percent total nitrogen and 46 percent available phosphate.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.005, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11a. Finished sewage sludge product. "Finished sewage sludge product" means a fertilizer product consisting in whole or in part of sewage sludge that is disinfected by...
Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.005, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:


Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.005, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 18c. Liquid 32. "Liquid 32" means a liquid nitrogen solution containing 32 percent total nitrogen.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.005, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 19b. Monoammonium phosphate. "Monoammonium phosphate" or "MAP" means a fertilizer containing ten to 11 percent total nitrogen and 48 to 55 percent available phosphorus.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.005, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 20a. Nitrogen fertilizer. "Nitrogen fertilizer" means any fertilizer, soil amendment or plant amendment totally or partially comprised of nitrogen, including but not limited to anhydrous ammonia, urea, liquid 28, liquid 32, DAP, and MAP.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.005, subdivision 33, is amended to read:

Subd. 33. Soil amendment. "Soil amendment" means a substance intended to improve the structural, physical, chemical, biochemical, or biological characteristics of the soil or modify organic matter at or near the soil surface, except fertilizers, agricultural liming materials, pesticides, and other materials exempted by the commissioner's rules.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.005, subdivision 37a, is amended to read:

Subd. 37a. Urea. "Urea" means a white crystalline solid containing 46 percent nitrogen.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.115, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Adoption of national standards. Applicable national standards contained in the most recently published version of the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials including the rules and regulations, statements of uniform interpretation and policy, and the official fertilizer terms and definitions, and not otherwise adopted by the commissioner, may be adopted as fertilizer rules of this state.
Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.215, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Packaged fertilizers. (a) A person may not sell or distribute specialty fertilizer in bags or other containers in this state unless a label is placed on or affixed to the bag or container stating in a clear, legible, and conspicuous form the following information:

(1) the net weight and volume, if applicable;
(2) the brand and grade, except the grade is not required if primary nutrients are not claimed;
(3) the guaranteed analysis;
(4) the name and address of the guarantor;
(5) directions for use, except directions for use are not required for custom blend specialty fertilizers; and
(6) a derivatives statement.

(b) A person may not sell or distribute fertilizer for agricultural purposes in bags or other containers in this state unless a label is placed on or affixed to the bag or container stating in a clear, legible, and conspicuous form the information listed in paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (4), except:

(1) the grade is not required if primary nutrients are not claimed; and
(2) the grade on the label is optional if the fertilizer is used only for agricultural purposes and the guaranteed analysis statement is shown in the complete form as in section 18C.211.

(c) The labeled information must appear:

(1) on the front or back side of the container;
(2) on the upper one-third of the side of the container;
(3) on the upper end of the container; or
(4) printed on a tag affixed to the upper end of the container.

(d) If a person sells a custom blend specialty fertilizer in bags or other containers, the information required in paragraph (a) must either be affixed to the bag or container as required in paragraph (c) or be furnished to the customer on an invoice or delivery ticket in written or printed form.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.221, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Fertilizer plant food content. (a) Products that are deficient in plant food content are subject to this subdivision.

(b) An analysis must show that a fertilizer is deficient:

(1) the net weight and volume, if applicable;
(2) the brand and grade, except the grade is not required if primary nutrients are not claimed;
(3) the guaranteed analysis;
(4) the name and address of the guarantor;
(5) directions for use, except directions for use are not required for custom blend specialty fertilizers; and
(6) a derivatives statement.

(b) A person may not sell or distribute fertilizer for agricultural purposes in bags or other containers in this state unless a label is placed on or affixed to the bag or container stating in a clear, legible, and conspicuous form the information listed in paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (4), except:

(1) the grade is not required if primary nutrients are not claimed; and
(2) the grade on the label is optional if the fertilizer is used only for agricultural purposes and the guaranteed analysis statement is shown in the complete form as in section 18C.211.

(c) The labeled information must appear:

(1) on the front or back side of the container;
(2) on the upper one-third of the side of the container;
(3) on the upper end of the container; or
(4) printed on a tag affixed to the upper end of the container.

(d) If a person sells a custom blend specialty fertilizer in bags or other containers, the information required in paragraph (a) must either be affixed to the bag or container as required in paragraph (c) or be furnished to the customer on an invoice or delivery ticket in written or printed form.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.221, is amended to read:

18C.221 FERTILIZER PLANT FOOD CONTENT.

(a) Products that are deficient in plant food content are subject to this subdivision.

(b) An analysis must show that a fertilizer is deficient:
(1) in one or more of its guaranteed primary plant nutrients beyond the investigational allowances and compensations as established by regulation; or

(2) if the overall index value of the fertilizer is shown below the level established by rule.

(c) A deficiency in an official sample of mixed fertilizer resulting from nonuniformity is not distinguishable from a deficiency due to actual plant nutrient shortage and is properly subject to official action.

(d) For the purpose of determining the commercial index value to be applied, the commissioner shall determine at least annually the values per unit of nitrogen, available phosphoric acid, and soluble potash in fertilizers in this state.

(e) If a fertilizer in the possession of the consumer is found by the commissioner to be short in weight, the registrant or licensee of the fertilizer must submit a penalty payment of two times the value of the actual shortage to the consumer within 30 days after official notice from the commissioner.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 18C.421, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Annual tonnage report. (a) Each registrant under section 18C.411 and licensee under section 18C.415 shall file an annual tonnage report for the previous year ending June 30 with the commissioner, on forms provided or approved by the commissioner, utilizing uniform fertilizer tonnage reporting system codes and stating the number of net tons of each brand or grade of fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment distributed in this state or the number of net tons and grade of each raw fertilizer material distributed in this state during the reporting period.

(b) A tonnage report is not required to be submitted and an inspection fee under section 18C.425, subdivision 6, is not required to be paid to the commissioner by a licensee who distributes fertilizer solely by custom application.

(c) The annual tonnage report must be submitted to the commissioner on or before July 31 of each year.

(d) The inspection fee under section 18C.425, subdivision 6, must accompany the statement.

(e) The commissioner must produce an annual fertilizer sales report and post this report on the commissioner's website.
Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 18C.425, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

(a) The person who registers and distributes in the state a specialty fertilizer, soil amendment, or plant amendment under section 18C.411 shall pay the inspection fee to the commissioner.

(b) The person licensed under section 18C.415 who distributes a fertilizer to a person not required to be so licensed shall pay the inspection fee to the commissioner, except as exempted under section 18C.421, subdivision 1, paragraph (b).

(c) The person responsible for payment of the inspection fees for fertilizers, soil amendments, or plant amendments sold and used in this state shall pay the inspection fee set under paragraph (e), and until June 30, 2024, an additional 40 cents per ton of fertilizer, soil amendment, and plant amendment sold or distributed in this state, with a minimum of $10 on all tonnage reports. Notwithstanding section 18C.131, the commissioner must deposit all revenue from the additional 40 cents per ton fee in the agricultural fertilizer research and education account in section 18C.80. Products sold or distributed to manufacturers or exchanged between them are exempt from the inspection fee imposed by this subdivision if the products are used exclusively for manufacturing purposes.

(d) A registrant or licensee must retain invoices showing proof of fertilizer, plant amendment, or soil amendment distribution amounts and inspection fees paid for a period of three years.

(e) By commissioner's order, the commissioner shall set the inspection fee at no less than 39 cents per ton and no more than 70 cents per ton. The commissioner must hold a public meeting before increasing the fee by more than five cents per ton.

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

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18C.70, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Expiration.

Subd. 2. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2025.

Subd. 3. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2026.

Subd. 4. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2027.

Subd. 5. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2028.

Subd. 6. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2029.

Subd. 7. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2030.

Subd. 8. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2031.

Subd. 9. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2032.

Subd. 10. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2033.

Subd. 11. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2034.

Subd. 12. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2035.
Sec. 27. [18C.90] PRIVATE WELL DRINKING-WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. Account; appropriation. A private well drinking-water assistance account is established in the agricultural fund. Money in the account, including interest earned, is appropriated to the commissioner for aid payments to community health boards under subdivision 2.

Subd. 2. Aid payments. (a) At least annually, the commissioner must make aid payments to community health boards established under chapter 145A for purposes of assisting eligible residents under subdivision 3.

(b) The commissioner must award proportional aid payments to eligible community health boards based on each board's share of total private drinking-water wells in the state with documented nitrate in excess of ten milligrams per liter, as determined by the commissioner in consultation with the commissioners of health and the Pollution Control Agency.

Subd. 3. Provision of safe drinking water. (a) For purposes of this section, "safe drinking water" means water required for drinking, cooking, and maintaining oral hygiene that has a nitrate level of no more than ten milligrams per liter.

(b) Community health boards must use aid payments received under subdivision 2 to assist residents in obtaining safe drinking water when the documented level of nitrate in the resident's private drinking-water well is more than ten milligrams per liter, with priority given to pregnant women and children under the age of one.

(c) Community health boards must assist eligible residents in obtaining safe drinking water through one or more of the following methods:

(1) convenient bottled water distribution or delivery;

(2) reverse osmosis treatment unit acquisition, installation, and maintenance;

(3) connection to a public water system; or

(4) another method, as determined by the commissioner of health, that provides eligible residents with a sufficient quantity of safe drinking water.

Subd. 4. Reports. No later than January 15 each year, the commissioner must report outcomes achieved under this section and any corresponding recommendations to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture and health.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18D.301, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Enforcement required. (a) The commissioner shall enforce this chapter and chapters 18B, 18C, and 18E.
97.15 (b) Violations of chapter 18B, 18C, or 18F or rules adopted under chapter 18B, 18C, or 18F, or section 103H.275, subdivision 2, are a violation of this chapter.
97.16 (c) Upon the request of the commissioner, county attorneys, sheriffs, and other officers having authority in the enforcement of the general criminal laws shall take action to the extent of their authority necessary or proper for the enforcement of this chapter or special orders, standards, stipulations, and agreements of the commissioner.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 18K.06, is amended to read:

18K.06 RULEMAKING.

(a) The commissioner shall adopt rules governing the production, testing, processing, and licensing of industrial hemp. Notwithstanding the two-year limitation for exempt rules under section 14.388, subdivision 1, Minnesota Rules, chapter 1565, published in the State Register on August 16, 2021, is effective until August 16, 2025, or until permanent rules implementing chapter 18K are adopted, whichever occurs first may adopt or amend rules governing the production, testing, processing, and licensing of industrial hemp using the procedure in section 14.386, paragraph (a). Section 14.386, paragraph (b), does not apply to rules adopted or amended under this section.

(b) Rules adopted under paragraph (a) must include but not be limited to provisions governing:

(1) the supervision and inspection of industrial hemp during its growth and harvest;
(2) the testing of industrial hemp to determine delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol levels;
(3) the use of background check results required under section 18K.04 to approve or deny a license application; and
(4) any other provision or procedure necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

c) Rules issued under this section must be consistent with federal law regarding the production, distribution, and sale of industrial hemp.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.10, is amended to read:

28A.10 POSTING OF LICENSE; RULES.

All such licenses shall be issued for a period of one year and shall be posted or displayed in a conspicuous place at the place of business so licensed. Except as provided in sections 29.22, subdivision 4 and 31.39, all such license fees and penalties collected by the commissioner shall be deposited into the state treasury and credited to the general fund.

The commissioner may adopt such rules in conformity with law as the commissioner deems necessary to effectively and efficiently carry out the provisions of sections 28A.01 to 28A.16.
Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.151, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

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

(b) "Farmers' market" means an association of three or more persons who assemble at a defined location that is open to the public for the purpose of selling directly to the consumer products of a farm or garden occupied and cultivated by the person selling the product.

(c) "Food product sampling" means distributing to individuals at a farmers' market or community event, for promotional or educational purposes, small portions of a food item that include as a main ingredient a product sold by the vendor at the farmers' market or community event. For purposes of this subdivision, "small portion" means a portion that is no more than three ounces of food or beverage.

(d) "Food product demonstration" means cooking or preparing food products to distribute to individuals at a farmers' market or community event for promotional or educational purposes.

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

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.151, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Food sampling and demonstration. (a) Food used in sampling and demonstration must be obtained from sources that comply with Minnesota Food Law.

(b) Raw animal; raw poultry; and raw fish products must not be served as samples.

(c) Food product sampling or food product demonstrations including cooked animal; poultry; or fish products must be prepared on site at the event.

(d) Animal or poultry products used for food product sampling or food product demonstrations must be from animals slaughtered under continuous inspection, either by the USDA or through Minnesota's "Equal-to" inspection program.

(e) The licensing provisions of sections 28A.01 to 28A.16 shall not apply to persons engaged in food product sampling or food product demonstrations.

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

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.151, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Food required to be provided at no cost; Food provided through food product sampling or food product demonstrations must be provided at no cost to the individual recipient of a sample.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.
sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.151, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

subd. 5. Food safety and equipment standards. (a) Any person conducting food
product sampling or food product demonstrations shall meet the same food safety and
equipment standards that are required of a special event food stand in Minnesota Rules,
parts 4626.1855, items B to O, Q, and R; and 4626.0330.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a handwashing device is not required when only
prepackaged food samples are offered.

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

sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.151, is amended by adding a subdivision
to read:

subd. 7. Signage. A food product provided through food product sampling or food
product demonstrations must be accompanied by a legible sign or placard that lists the
product's ingredients and major food allergens.

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

sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.21, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

subd. 6. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2027.

sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 28A.21, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

subd. 6. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2037.

31.74 Sale of imitation honey.

subd. 1. Honey defined. As used in this section "honey" means the nectar and
saccharine exudation of plants, gathered, modified and stored in the comb by honey bees,
which is levorotatory, contains not more than 25 percent of water, not more than 25/100
percent of ash, and not more than eight percent sucrose.

subd. 2. Prohibited sale. Notwithstanding any law or rule to the contrary, it is unlawful
for any person to sell or offer for sale any product which is in semblance of honey and which
is labeled, advertised, or otherwise represented to be honey; if it is not honey. The word
"imitation" shall not be used in the name of a product which is in semblance of honey
whether or not it contains any honey. The label for a product which is not in semblance of
honey and which contains honey may include the word "honey" in the name of the product
and the relative position of the word "honey" in the product name, and in the list of
ingredients, when required, shall be determined by its prominence as an ingredient in the
product.

subd. 4. Food consisting of honey and another sweetener. Consistent with the federal
act, the federal regulations incorporated under section 31.101, subdivision 7, and the
prohibition against misbranding in sections 31.02 and 34A.03, the label for a food in
S4942-3

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 31.94, is amended to read:

31.94 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE; COMMISSIONER DUTIES.

(a) In order to promote opportunities for organic agriculture in Minnesota, the commissioner shall:

(1) survey producers and support services and organizations to determine information and research needs in the area of organic agriculture practices;

(2) work with the University of Minnesota and other research and education institutions to demonstrate the on-farm applicability of organic agriculture practices to conditions in this state;

(3) direct the programs of the department so as to work toward the promotion of organic agriculture in this state;

(4) inform agencies about state or federal programs that support organic agriculture practices; and

(5) work closely with producers, producer organizations, the University of Minnesota, and other appropriate agencies and organizations to identify opportunities and needs as well as ensure coordination and avoid duplication of state agency efforts regarding research, teaching, marketing, and extension work relating to organic agriculture.

(b) By November 15 of each year that ends in a zero or a five, the commissioner, in conjunction with the task force created in paragraph (c), shall report on the status of organic agriculture in Minnesota to the legislative policy and finance committees and divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture. The report must include available data on organic acreage and production, available data on the sales or market performance of organic products, and recommendations regarding programs, policies, and research efforts that will benefit Minnesota's organic agriculture sector.

(c) A Minnesota Organic Advisory Task Force shall advise the commissioner and the University of Minnesota on policies and programs that will improve organic agriculture in Minnesota, including how available resources can most effectively be used for outreach, education, research, and technical assistance that meet the needs of the organic agriculture sector. The task force must consist of the following residents of the state:

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 31.94, is amended to read:

31.94 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE; COMMISSIONER DUTIES.

(a) In order to promote opportunities for organic agriculture in Minnesota, the commissioner shall:

(1) survey producers and support services and organizations to determine information and research needs in the area of organic agriculture practices;

(2) work with the University of Minnesota and other research and education institutions to demonstrate the on-farm applicability of organic agriculture practices to conditions in this state;

(3) direct the programs of the department so as to work toward the promotion of organic agriculture in this state;

(4) inform agencies about state or federal programs that support organic agriculture practices; and

(5) work closely with producers, producer organizations, the University of Minnesota, and other appropriate agencies and organizations to identify opportunities and needs as well as ensure coordination and avoid duplication of state agency efforts regarding research, teaching, marketing, and extension work relating to organic agriculture.

(b) By November 15 of each year that ends in a zero or a five, the commissioner, in conjunction with the task force created in paragraph (c), shall report on the status of organic agriculture in Minnesota to the legislative policy and finance committees and divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture. The report must include available data on organic acreage and production, available data on the sales or market performance of organic products, and recommendations regarding programs, policies, and research efforts that will benefit Minnesota's organic agriculture sector.

(c) A Minnesota Organic Advisory Task Force shall advise the commissioner and the University of Minnesota on policies and programs that will improve organic agriculture in Minnesota, including how available resources can most effectively be used for outreach, education, research, and technical assistance that meet the needs of the organic agriculture sector. The task force must consist of the following residents of the state:
The commissioner, in consultation with the director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station; the dean and director of University of Minnesota Extension and the dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, shall appoint members to serve three-year terms.

Compensation and removal of members are governed by section 15.059, subdivision 6.

The task force must meet at least twice each year and expires on June 30, 2024.

For the purposes of expanding, improving, and developing production and marketing of the organic products of Minnesota agriculture, the commissioner may receive funds from state and federal sources and spend them, including through grants or contracts, to assist producers and processors to achieve certification, to conduct education or marketing activities, to enter into research and development partnerships, or to address production or marketing obstacles to the growth and well-being of the industry.

The commissioner may facilitate the registration of state organic production and handling operations including those exempt from organic certification according to Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 205.101, and accredited certification agencies operating within the state.

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

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 32D.30, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Program. The commissioner must implement a dairy development and profitability enhancement program consisting of a dairy profitability enhancement team and program, dairy business planning grants, and other services to support the dairy industry.
The commissioner may award dairy business planning grants. The commissioner may award dairy business planning grants of up to $5,000 per producer or dairy processor to develop comprehensive business plans using technical assistance services for evaluating operations, transitional changes, expansions, improvements, and other business modifications. Producers and processors must not use dairy business planning grants for capital improvements.

Subd. 4. Funding allocation. Except as specified in law, the commissioner may allocate dairy development and profitability enhancement program dollars among for the permissible uses specified in this section and other needs to support the dairy industry, including efforts to improve the quality of milk produced in the state, in the proportions that the commissioner deems most beneficial to the state's dairy farmers.

Subd. 5. Reporting. No later than July 1 each year, the commissioner must submit a detailed accomplishments report and work plan detailing future plans for, and the actual and anticipated accomplishments from, expenditures under this section to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture policy and finance. If the commissioner significantly modifies a submitted work plan during the fiscal year, the commissioner must notify the chairs and ranking minority members.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 35.155, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. Importation. (a) A person must not import live Cervidae into the state from a state or province where chronic wasting disease has been detected in the farmed or wild
cervid population in the last five years unless the animal has tested not detected for chronic wasting disease with a validated live-animal test.

(b) Live Cervidae or Cervidae semen must originate from a herd that has been subject to a state-, federal-, or provincial-approved chronic wasting disease herd certification program and that has reached a status equivalent to the highest certification.

c (c) Cervidae imported in violation of this section may be seized and destroyed by the commissioner of natural resources.

(d) This subdivision does not apply to the interstate transfer of animals between two facilities accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

(e) Notwithstanding this subdivision, the commissioner of natural resources may issue a permit allowing the importation of orphaned wild cervid species that are not susceptible to chronic wasting disease from another state to an Association of Zoos and Aquariums accredited institution in Minnesota following a joint risk-based assessment conducted by the commissioner and the institution.

(f) Notwithstanding this subdivision, the state veterinarian may issue a permit to a zoo that is a United States Department of Agriculture-licensed exhibitor of regulated animals to import live Cervidae from another state if the Cervidae are part of a herd that is:

1. in the United States Department of Agriculture Herd Certification program; or
2. subject to similar equivalent disease surveillance at the discretion of the state veterinarian.

Sec. 18. SUPERSEDING EFFECT.

The amendment to Minnesota Statutes, section 35.155, subdivision 12, in section 12 of this article is intended to supersede the amendment in article 1, section 18, in S.F. No. 4225.
Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.26, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. Discontinuance or cancellation of registration.
(a) To ensure the complete withdrawal from distribution or further use of a pesticide, a person who intends to discontinue a pesticide registration must:

(1) terminate a further distribution within the state and continue to register the pesticide annually for two successive years;
(2) initiate and complete a total recall of the pesticide from all distribution in the state within 60 days from the date of notification to the commissioner of intent to discontinue registration;
(3) submit to the commissioner evidence adequate to document that no distribution of the registered pesticide has occurred in the state.

(b) Upon the request of a registrant, the commissioner may immediately cancel registration of a pesticide product. The commissioner may immediately cancel registration of a pesticide product at the commissioner's discretion. When requesting that the commissioner immediately cancel registration of a pesticide product, a registrant must provide the commissioner with:

(1) a statement that the pesticide product is no longer in distribution; and
(2) documentation of pesticide gross sales from the previous year supporting the statement under clause (1).

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.28, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. Advisory panel. Before approving the issuance of an experimental use pesticide product registration under this section, the commissioner must convene and consider the advice of a panel of outside scientific and health experts. The panel must include but is not limited to representatives of the Department of Health, the Department of Natural Resources, the Pollution Control Agency, and the University of Minnesota.

Sec. 4. [18B.283] EXPERT ADVICE REQUIRED FOR EMERGENCY EXEMPTIONS.

Within 30 days of submitting an emergency registration exemption application under section 18 of FIFRA, the commissioner must convene and consider the advice of a panel of outside scientific and health experts. The panel must include but is not limited to...
representatives of the Department of Health, the Department of Natural Resources, the
Pollution Control Agency, and the University of Minnesota.

Subd. 2. Training manual and examination development. The commissioner, in
consultation with University of Minnesota Extension and other higher education institutions,
shall continually revise and update pesticide applicator training manuals and examinations.
The manuals and examinations must be written to meet or exceed the minimum competency
standards required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and pertinent
state specific information. Pesticide applicator training manuals and examinations must
meet or exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171.
Competency standards for training manuals and examinations must be published on the
Department of Agriculture website. Questions in the examinations must be determined by the
commissioner in consultation with other responsible agencies. Manuals and examinations
must include pesticide management practices that discuss prevention of pesticide occurrence
in groundwater and surface water of the state, and economic thresholds and guidance for
insecticide use.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.32, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Requirement. (a) A person may not engage in structural pest control
applications:

(1) for hire without a structural pest control license; and
(2) as a sole proprietorship, company, partnership, or corporation unless the person is
or employs a licensed master in structural pest control operations; and
(3) unless the person is 18 years of age or older.

(b) A structural pest control license must have a valid license identification card to
purchase a restricted use pesticide or apply pesticides for hire and must display it upon
demand by an authorized representative of the commissioner or a law enforcement officer.
The license identification card must contain information required by the commissioner.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.32, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Application. (a) A person must apply to the commissioner for a structural pest
control license on forms and in the manner required by the commissioner. The commissioner
shall require the applicant to pass a written, closed-book, monitored examination or oral
examination, or both, and may also require a practical demonstration regarding structural
pest control. The commissioner shall establish the examination procedure, including the
phases and contents of the examination.

(b) The commissioner may license a person as a master under a structural pest control
license if the person has the necessary qualifications through knowledge and experience to
properly plan, determine, and supervise the selection and application of pesticides in structural
pest control. To demonstrate the qualifications and become licensed as a master under a structural pest control license, a person must:

1. pass a closed-book test administered by the commissioner;
2. have direct experience as a licensed journeyman under a structural pest control license for at least two years by this state or a state with equivalent certification requirements or as a full-time licensed master in another state with equivalent certification requirements; and
3. show practical knowledge and field experience under clause (2) in the actual selection and application of pesticides under varying conditions.

The commissioner may license a person as a journeyman under a structural pest control license if the person:

1. has passed a closed-book examination given by the commissioner; and
2. has direct experience as a licensed journeyman under a structural pest control license for at least two years by this state or a state with equivalent certification requirements or as a master under a structural pest control license.

The commissioner may license a person as a fumigator under a structural pest control license if the person:

1. has the necessary qualifications in the practical selection and application of fumigants; and
2. has passed a closed-book examination given by the commissioner; and
3. is engaged as an employee of or is working under the direction of a person licensed as a master under a structural pest control license.

The commissioner may license a person as a fumigator under a structural pest control license if the person:

1. has knowledge of the practical selection and application of fumigants; and
2. has passed a closed-book examination given by the commissioner; and
3. is licensed by the commissioner as a master or journeyman under a structural pest control license.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.32, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

(a) An applicator may apply to renew an existing license subject to reexamination, attendance at a recertification workshop approved by the commissioner, or other requirements imposed by the commissioner to provide the applicator with information regarding changing technology and to help assure a continuing level of competency and ability to use pesticides safely and properly. A recertification workshop must meet or exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171. Competency standards for a recertification workshop must be published on the Department of Agriculture website. If the commissioner requires an applicator to attend a recertification workshop and the applicator fails to attend the workshop, the commissioner may require the applicator to pass a reexamination. The commissioner may require an additional demonstration of applicator qualification if the applicator has had a license suspended or revoked or has otherwise had a history of violations of this chapter.

(b) The commissioner may require an applicator to attend a reexamination, attendance at a recertification workshop approved by the commissioner, or other requirements imposed by the commissioner to provide the applicator with information regarding changing technology and to help assure a continuing level of competency and ability to use pesticides safely and properly. A recertification workshop must meet or exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171. Competency standards for a recertification workshop must be published on the Department of Agriculture website. If the commissioner requires an applicator to attend a recertification workshop and the applicator fails to attend the workshop, the commissioner may require the applicator to pass a reexamination. The commissioner may require an additional demonstration of applicator qualification if the applicator has had a license suspended or revoked or has otherwise had a history of violations of this chapter.
(b) If an employee of a licensed person is not required to maintain an insurance policy or bond during the time the employer is maintaining the required insurance or bond.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.32, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. Financial responsibility. (a) A structural pest control license may not be issued unless the applicant furnishes proof of financial responsibility. The commissioner may suspend or revoke a structural pest control license if an applicant fails to provide proof of financial responsibility upon the commissioner’s request. Financial responsibility may be demonstrated by:

1. proof of net assets equal to or greater than $50,000; or
2. a performance bond or insurance of a kind and in an amount determined by the commissioner.

(b) The bond or insurance must cover a period of time at least equal to the term of the applicant’s license. The commissioner must immediately suspend the license of an applicant who fails to maintain the bond or insurance. The performance bond or insurance policy must contain a provision requiring the insurance or bonding company to notify the commissioner by ten days before the effective date of cancellation, termination, or any other change of the bond or insurance. If there is recovery against the bond or insurance, additional coverage must be secured by the applicant to maintain financial responsibility equal to the original amount required.

(c) An employee of a licensed person is not required to maintain an insurance policy or bond during the time the employer is maintaining the required insurance or bond.

(d) Applications for reinstatement of a license suspended under the provisions of this section must be accompanied by proof of satisfaction of judgments previously rendered. Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.33, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Requirement. (a) A person may not apply a pesticide for hire without a commercial applicator license for the appropriate use categories or a structural pest control license.

(b) A commercial applicator license must contain a valid license identification card to purchase a restricted use pesticide or apply pesticides for hire and must display it upon demand by an authorized representative of the commissioner or a law enforcement officer. The commissioner shall prescribe the information required on the license identification card.

(c) A person licensed under this section is considered qualified and is not required to verify, document, or otherwise prove a particular need prior to use, except as required by the federal label.
(d) A person who uses a general-use sanitizer or disinfectant for hire in response to COVID-19 is exempt from the commercial applicator license requirements under this section.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.33, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. Renewal application. (a) An applicant must apply to the commissioner to renew a commercial applicator license. The commissioner may renew a commercial applicator license accompanied by the application fee, subject to reexamination, attendance at workshops a recertification workshop approved by the commissioner, or other requirements imposed by the commissioner to provide the applicant with information regarding changing technology and to help assure a continuing level of competence and ability to use pesticides safely and properly. The applicant a recertification workshop must meet or exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171. Competency standards for a recertification workshop must be published on the Department of Agriculture website. Upon the receipt of an applicator's renewal application, the commissioner may require the applicant to attend a recertification workshop. Depending on the application category, the commissioner may require an applicant to complete a recertification workshop once per year, once every two years, or once every three years. If the commissioner requires an applicant to attend a recertification workshop and the applicant fails to attend the workshop, the commissioner may require the applicant to pass a reexamination. An applicant may renew a commercial applicator license within 12 months after expiration of the license without having to meet initial testing requirements. The commissioner may require an additional demonstration of applicator qualification if the applicant has had a license suspended or revoked or has had a history of violations of this chapter.

(b) An applicant that meets renewal requirements by reexamination instead of attending workshops a recertification workshop must pay the equivalent workshop fee for the reexamination as determined by the commissioner.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.33, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. Financial responsibility. (a) A commercial applicator license may not be issued unless the applicant furnishes proof of financial responsibility. The commissioner may suspend or revoke an applicant's commercial applicator license if the applicant fails to provide proof of financial responsibility upon the commissioner's request. Financial responsibility may be demonstrated by: (1) proof of net assets equal to or greater than $50,000; or (2) by a performance bond or insurance of the kind and in an amount determined by the commissioner.

(b) The bond or insurance must cover a period of time at least equal to the term of the applicant's commercial applicator license. The commissioner must immediately suspend the license of a person an applicant who fails to maintain the required bond or insurance. The performance bond or insurance policy must contain a provision requiring the insurance or
bonding company to notify the commissioner by ten days before the effective date of cancellation, termination, or any other change of the bond or insurance. If there is recovery against the bond or insurance, additional coverage must be secured by the applicator to maintain financial responsibility equal to the original amount required.

(c) An employee of a licensed applicator is not required to maintain an insurance policy or bond during the time the employer is maintaining the required insurance or bond.

(d) Applications for reinstatement of a license suspended under the provisions of this section must be accompanied by proof of satisfaction of judgments previously rendered.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.34, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Requirement. (a) Except for a licensed commercial applicator, certified private applicator, or licensed structural pest control applicator, a person, including a government employee, may not purchase or use a restricted use pesticide in performance of official duties without having a noncommercial applicator license for an appropriate use category.

(b) A licensee must have a valid license identification card when applying pesticides and must display it upon demand by an authorized representative of the commissioner or a law enforcement officer. The license identification card must contain information required by the commissioner.

(c) A person licensed under this section is considered qualified and is not required to verify, document, or otherwise prove a particular need prior to use, except as required by the federal label.

(d) A person licensed under this section must be 18 years of age or older.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.34, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. Renewal. (a) An applicator must apply to the commissioner to renew a noncommercial applicator license. The commissioner may renew a license subject to reexamination, attendance at workshops a recertification workshop approved by the commissioner, or other requirements imposed by the commissioner to provide the applicator with information regarding changing technology and to help assure a continuing level of competence and ability to use pesticides safely and properly. A recertification workshop must meet or exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 173. Competency standards for a recertification website must be published on the Department of Agriculture website. Upon the receipt of an applicator’s renewal application, the commissioner may require the applicator to attend a recertification workshop once per year, once every two years, or once every three years. If the commissioner requires an applicator to attend a recertification workshop and the applicator fails to attend the workshop, the commissioner may require the applicator to pass a reexamination. The commissioner may require an additional demonstration of applicator competence and ability to use pesticides safely and properly.

(b) A licensee must have a valid license identification card when applying pesticides and must display it upon demand by an authorized representative of the commissioner or a law enforcement officer. The license identification card must contain information required by the commissioner.

(c) A person licensed under this section is considered qualified and is not required to verify, document, or otherwise prove a particular need prior to use, except as required by the federal label.

(d) A person licensed under this section must be 18 years of age or older.
applicant qualification if the applicator has had a license suspended or revoked or has otherwise had a history of violations of this chapter.

(b) An applicant applicant that meets renewal requirements by reexamination instead of attending workshops a recertification workshop must pay the equivalent workshop fee for the reexamination as determined by the commissioner.

(c) An applicant applicant has 12 months to renew the license after expiration without having to meet initial testing requirements.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.35, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Establishment. (a) The commissioner may establish categories of structural pest control, commercial applicator, and noncommercial applicator licenses for administering and enforcing this chapter, and private applicator certification consistent with federal requirements in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, sections 171.101 and 171.105, including but not limited to the federal categories that are applicable to the state. Application categories must meet or exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171. Competency standards for application categories must be published on the Department of Agriculture website. The categories may include pest control operators and ornamental, agricultural, aquatic, forest, and right-of-way pesticide applicators. Separate subclassifications of categories may be specified as to ground, aerial, or manual methods to apply pesticides or to the use of pesticides to control insects, plant diseases, rodents, or weeds.

(b) Each category is subject to separate testing procedures and requirements.

Subdivision 1. Requirement. (a) Except for a licensed commercial or noncommercial applicator, only a certified private applicator may use a restricted use pesticide to produce an agricultural commodity:

(1) as a traditional exchange of services without financial compensation;
(2) on a site owned, rented, or managed by the person or the person's employees; or
(3) when the private applicator is one of two or fewer employees and the owner or operator is a certified private applicator or is licensed as a noncommercial applicator.

(b) A person may not purchase a restricted use pesticide without presenting a license card, certified private applicator card, or the card number.

(c) A person certified under this section is considered qualified and is not required to verify, document, or otherwise prove a particular need prior to use, except as required by the federal label.

(d) A person certified under this section must be 18 years of age or older.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.35, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

(a) Except for a licensed commercial or noncommercial applicator, only a certified private applicator or is licensed as a noncommercial applicator. Separate subclassifications of categories may be specified as to ground, aerial, or manual methods to apply pesticides or to the use of pesticides to control insects, plant diseases, rodents, or weeds.

(b) Each category is subject to separate testing procedures and requirements.

Subdivision 1. Requirement. (a) Except for a licensed commercial or noncommercial applicator, only a certified private applicator may use a restricted use pesticide to produce an agricultural commodity:

(1) as a traditional exchange of services without financial compensation;
(2) on a site owned, rented, or managed by the person or the person's employees; or
(3) when the private applicator is one of two or fewer employees and the owner or operator is a certified private applicator or is licensed as a noncommercial applicator.

(b) A person may not purchase a restricted use pesticide without presenting a license card, certified private applicator card, or the card number.

(c) A person certified under this section is considered qualified and is not required to verify, document, or otherwise prove a particular need prior to use, except as required by the federal label.

(d) A person certified under this section must be 18 years of age or older.
Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.36, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Certification. (a) The commissioner shall prescribe certification requirements and provide training that meets or exceeds United States Environmental Protection Agency technology to help ensure a continuing level of competency and ability to use pesticides properly and safely. Private applicator certification requirements and training must meet or exceed the competency standards in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171.

Competency standards for private applicator certification and training must be published on the Department of Agriculture website. The training may be done through cooperation with other government agencies and must be a minimum of three hours in duration.

(b) A person must apply to the commissioner for certification as a private applicator. After completing the certification requirements, which must include an examination as determined by the commissioner, an applicant must be certified as a private applicator to use restricted use pesticides. The certification shall expire March 1 of the third calendar year after the initial year of certification.

(c) The commissioner shall issue a private applicator card to a private applicator.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.37, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Commercial and noncommercial applicators. (a) A commercial or noncommercial applicator, or the applicator's authorized agent, must maintain a record of pesticides used on each site. Noncommercial applicators must keep records of restricted use pesticides. The record must include the:

1. date of the pesticide use;
2. time the pesticide application was completed;
3. brand name of the pesticide, the United States Environmental Protection Agency registration number, and rate used;
4. number of units treated;
5. temperature, wind speed, and wind direction;
6. location of the site where the pesticide was applied;
7. name and address of the customer;
8. name of applicator, name of company, license number of applicator, and address of applicator company; and
9. any other information required by the commissioner.

(b) Portions of records not relevant to a specific type of application may be omitted upon approval from the commissioner.
(c) All information for this record requirement must be contained in a document for each pesticide application, except a map may be attached to identify treated areas. An invoice containing the required information may constitute the required record. The commissioner shall make sample forms available to meet the requirements of this paragraph.

(d) The record must be completed no later than five days after the application of the pesticide.

(e) A commercial applicator must give a copy of the record to the customer.

(f) Records must be retained by the applicator, company, or authorized agent for five years after the date of treatment.

(g) A record of a commercial or noncommercial applicator must meet or exceed the requirements in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 18B.37, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Structural pest control applicators.

(a) A structural pest control applicator must maintain a record of each structural pest control application conducted by that person or by the person's employees. The record must include the:

1. date of structural pest control application;
2. target pest;
3. brand name of the pesticide, United States Environmental Protection Agency registration number, and amount used;
4. for fumigation, the temperature and exposure time;
5. time the pesticide application was completed;
6. name and address of the customer;
7. name of structural pest control applicator, name of company and address of applicator or company, and license number of applicator and
   any other information required by the commissioner.

(b) All information for this record requirement must be contained in a document for each pesticide application. An invoice containing the required information may constitute the record.

(c) The record must be completed no later than five days after the application of the pesticide.

(d) Records must be retained for five years after the date of treatment.

(e) A copy of the record must be given to a person who ordered the application that is present at the site where the structural pest control application is conducted, placed in a
A conspicuous location at the site where the structural pest control application is conducted immediately after the application of the pesticides, or delivered to the person who ordered an application or the owner of the site. The commissioner must make sample forms available that meet the requirements of this subdivision.

(f) A structural applicator must post in a conspicuous place inside a renter's apartment where a pesticide application has occurred a list of postapplication precautions contained on the label of the pesticide that was applied in the apartment and any other information required by the commissioner.

(g) A record of a structural applicator must meet or exceed the requirements in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171.

Conspicuous location at the site where the structural pest control application is conducted immediately after the application of the pesticides, or delivered to the person who ordered an application or the owner of the site. The commissioner must make sample forms available that meet the requirements of this subdivision.

(f) A structural applicator must post in a conspicuous place inside a renter's apartment where a pesticide application has occurred a list of postapplication precautions contained on the label of the pesticide that was applied in the apartment and any other information required by the commissioner.

(g) A record of a structural applicator must meet or exceed the requirements in Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 171.

Sec. 20. COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR LICENSE EXAMINATION LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS.

By January 1, 2025, the commissioner of agriculture must ensure that examinations for a commercial applicator license under Minnesota Statutes, section 18B.33, are available in Spanish and that applicants are informed that the examinations can be taken in Spanish. The commissioner must use money appropriated from the pesticide regulatory account under Minnesota Statutes, section 18B.05, for this purpose.

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 41A.19, is amended to read:

41A.19 REPORT; INCENTIVE PROGRAMS.

By January 15 each year, the commissioner shall report on the incentive and tax credit programs under sections 41A.16, 41A.17, 41A.18, and 41A.20, and 41A.30 to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over environment policy and finance and agriculture policy and finance. The report shall include information on production and incentive expenditures and tax credit certificates awarded under the programs, as well as the following information that the commissioner must require of each producer or blender who receives a payment or a tax credit certificate during the reporting period:

(1) the producer's or blender's business structure;

(2) the name and address of the producer's or blender's parent company, if any;

(3) a cumulative list of all financial assistance received from all public grantors for the project;

(4) goals for the number of jobs created and progress in achieving these goals, which may include separate goals for the number of part-time or full-time jobs, or, in cases where job loss is specific and demonstrable, goals for the number of jobs retained;

(5) equity hiring goals and progress in achieving these goals.
Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 41A.30, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

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

(b) "Aircraft" has the meaning given in section 296A.01, subdivision 3.

c) "Aviation gasoline" has the meaning given in section 296A.01, subdivision 7.

d) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of agriculture.

e) "Jet fuel" has the meaning given in section 296A.01, subdivision 8.

(f) "Qualifying taxpayer" means a taxpayer, as defined in section 290.01, subdivision 6, that is engaged in the business of:

(1) producing sustainable aviation fuel; or

(2) blending sustainable aviation fuel with aviation gasoline or jet fuel.

(i) "Sustainable aviation fuel" means liquid fuel that

(1) is derived from biomass, as defined in section 41A.15, subdivision 2c; is derived from gaseous carbon oxides derived from biomass or direct air capture; or is derived from green electrolytic hydrogen;

(2) is not derived from palm fatty acid distillates; and

(3) achieves at least a 50 percent life cycle greenhouse gas emissions reduction in comparison with petroleum-based aviation gasoline, aviation turbine fuel, and jet fuel as determined by a test that shows:

(i) that the fuel production pathway achieves at least a 50 percent life cycle greenhouse gas emissions reduction in comparison with petroleum-based aviation gasoline, aviation turbine fuel, and jet fuel utilizing the most recent version of Argonne National Laboratory's
Greenhouse Gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy Use in Technologies (GREET) model that accounts for reduced emissions throughout the fuel production process; or

(ii) that the fuel production pathway achieves at least a 50 percent reduction of the aggregate attributional core life cycle emissions and the positive induced land use change values under the life cycle methodology for sustainable aviation fuels adopted by the International Civil Aviation Organization with the agreement of the United States.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41B.039, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. State participation. The state may participate in a new real estate loan with an eligible lender to a beginning farmer to the extent of 45 percent of the principal amount of the loan or $400,000, whichever is less. The interest rates and repayment terms of the authority's participation interest may be different than the interest rates and repayment terms of the lender's retained portion of the loan.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 41B.0391, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. Authority duties. (a) The authority shall:

(1) approve and certify or recertify beginning farmers as eligible for the program under this section;

(2) approve and certify or recertify owners of agricultural assets as eligible for the tax credit under subdivision 2 subject to the allocation limits in paragraph (c);

(3) provide necessary and reasonable assistance and support to beginning farmers for qualification and participation in financial management programs approved by the authority;

(4) refer beginning farmers to agencies and organizations that may provide additional pertinent information and assistance; and

(5) notwithstanding section 41B.211, the Rural Finance Authority must share information with the commissioner of revenue to the extent necessary to administer provisions under this subdivision and section 290.06, subdivisions 37 and 38. The Rural Finance Authority must annually notify the commissioner of revenue of approval and certification or recertification of beginning farmers and owners of agricultural assets under this section.

For credits under subdivision 2, the notification must include the amount of credit approved by the authority and stated on the credit certificate.

(b) The certification of a beginning farmer or an owner of agricultural assets under this section is valid for the year of the certification and the two following years, after which time the beginning farmer or owner of agricultural assets must apply to the authority for recertification.
For credits for owners of agricultural assets allowed under subdivision 2, the authority must not allocate more than $6,500,000 for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022, and before January 1, 2024, and $4,000,000 for each taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023. The authority must allocate credits on a first-come, first-served basis beginning on January 1 of each year, except that recertifications for the second and third years of credits under subdivision 2, paragraph (a); clauses (1) and (2), have first priority. Any amount authorized but not allocated for taxable years ending before January 1, 2023, is canceled and is not allocated for future taxable years. For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022, any amount authorized but not allocated in any taxable year does not cancel and is added to the allocation for the next taxable year. For each taxable year, 50 percent of newly allocated credits must be allocated to emerging farmers. Any portion of a taxable year's newly allocated credits that is reserved for emerging farmers that is not allocated by September 30 is available for allocation to other credit allocations beginning on October 1.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023.

### Definitions

For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given:

- **Agricultural assets** means agricultural land, livestock, facilities, buildings, and machinery used for farming in Minnesota.
- **Beginning farmer** means an individual or LLC owned by an individual who:
  1. is a resident of Minnesota;
  2. is seeking entry, or has entered within the last ten years, into farming;
  3. intends to farm land located within the state borders of Minnesota;
  4. except as provided in subdivision 2, paragraph (f), is not and whose spouse is not a family member of the owner of the agricultural assets from whom the beginning farmer is seeking to purchase or rent agricultural assets;
  5. except as provided in subdivision 2, paragraph (f), is not and whose spouse is not a family member of a partner, member, shareholder, or trustee of the owner of agricultural assets from whom the beginning farmer is seeking to purchase or rent agricultural assets; and
  6. meets the following eligibility requirements as determined by the authority:
(i) has a net worth that does not exceed the limit provided under section 41B.03, subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (2);

(ii) provides the majority of the day-to-day physical labor and management of the farm;

(iii) has, by the judgment of the authority, adequate farming experience or demonstrates knowledge in the type of farming for which the beginning farmer seeks assistance from the authority;

(iv) demonstrates to the authority a profit potential by submitting projected earnings statements;

(v) asserts to the satisfaction of the authority that farming will be a significant source of income for the beginning farmer;

(vi) is enrolled in or has completed within ten years of their first year of farming a financial management program approved by the authority or the commissioner of agriculture;

(vii) agrees to notify the authority if the beginning farmer no longer meets the eligibility requirements within the three-year certification period, in which case the beginning farmer is no longer eligible for credits under this section; and

(viii) has other qualifications as specified by the authority.

The authority may waive the requirement in item (vi) if the participant requests a waiver and has a four-year degree in an agricultural program or related field; reasonable agricultural job-related experience; or certification as an adult farm management instructor.

(d) "Emerging farmer" means an emerging farmer within the meaning of section 17.055, subdivision 1.

(e) "Family member" means a family member within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code, section 267(c)(4).

(f) "Farm product" means plants and animals useful to humans and includes, but is not limited to, forage and sod crops, oilseeds, grain and feed crops, dairy and dairy products, poultry and poultry products, livestock, fruits, and vegetables.

(g) "Farming" means the active use, management, and operation of real and personal property for the production of a farm product.

(h) "Limited land access" has the meaning given in section 17.133, subdivision 1.

(i) "Owner of agricultural assets" means an individual, trust, or pass-through entity that is the owner in fee of agricultural land or has legal title to any other agricultural asset.

Owner of agricultural assets does not mean an equipment dealer; livestock dealer defined in section 17A.03, subdivision 7; or comparable entity that is engaged in the business of selling agricultural assets for profit and that is not engaged in farming as its primary business activity. An owner of agricultural assets approved and certified by the authority under...
subdivision 4 must notify the authority if the owner no longer meets the definition in this paragraph within the three-year certification period and is then no longer eligible for credits under this section:

(a)(i) "Resident" has the meaning given in section 290.01, subdivision 7;

(a)(ii) "Share rent agreement" means a rental agreement in which the principal consideration given to the owner of agricultural assets is a predetermined portion of the production of farm products produced from the rented agricultural assets and which provides for sharing production costs or risk of loss, or both.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 41B.0391, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Tax credit for owners of agricultural assets. (a) An owner of agricultural assets may take a credit against the tax due under chapter 290 for the sale or rental of agricultural assets to a beginning farmer in the amount allocated by the authority under subdivision 4. An owner of agricultural assets is eligible for allocation of a credit equal to:

(1) eight percent of the lesser of the sale price or the fair market value of the agricultural asset, up to a maximum of $50,000;

(2) ten percent of the gross rental income in each of the first, second, and third years of a rental agreement, up to a maximum of $7,000 per year; or

(3) 15 percent of the cash equivalent of the gross rental income in each of the first, second, and third years of a share rent agreement, up to a maximum of $10,000 per year.

(b) A qualifying rental agreement includes cash rent of agricultural assets or a share rent agreement. The agricultural asset must be rented at prevailing community rates as determined by the authority.

(c) The credit may be claimed only after approval and certification by the authority, and is limited to the amount stated on the certificate issued under subdivision 4. An owner of agricultural assets must apply to the authority for certification and allocation of a credit, in a form and manner prescribed by the authority.

(d) An owner of agricultural assets or beginning farmer may terminate a rental agreement, including a share rent agreement, for reasonable cause upon approval of the authority. If a rental agreement is terminated without the fault of the owner of agricultural assets, the tax credits shall not be retroactively disallowed. In determining reasonable cause, the authority must look at which party was at fault in the termination of the agreement. If the authority determines the owner of agricultural assets did not have reasonable cause, the owner of agricultural assets must repay all credits received as a result of the rental agreement to the commissioner of revenue. The repayment is additional income tax for the taxable year in
which the authority makes its decision or when a final adjudication under subdivision 5;
paragraph (a), is made, whichever is later.

(a) The credit is limited to the liability for tax as computed under chapter 290 for the
taxable year. If the amount of the credit determined under this section for any taxable year
exceeds this limitation, the excess is a beginning farmer incentive credit carryover according
to section 290.06, subdivision 37;

(f) For purposes of the credit for the sale of agricultural land only, the family member
definitional exclusions in subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clauses (4) and (5), do not apply.
For a sale to a family member to qualify for the credit, the sales price of the agricultural
land must equal or exceed the assessed value of the land as of the date of the sale. For
purposes of this paragraph, "sale to a family member" means a sale to a beginning farmer
in which the beginning farmer or the beginning farmer's spouse is a family member of:

(1) the owner of the agricultural land; or
(2) a partner, member, shareholder, or trustee of the owner of the agricultural land.

(g) For a sale to an emerging farmer experiencing limited land access, the credit rate
under paragraph (a), clause (1), is twelve percent rather than eight percent.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December
31, 2024.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 41B.0391, subdivision 4, is amended
to read:

Subd. 4. Authority duties. (a) The authority shall:

(1) approve and certify or recertify beginning farmers as eligible for the program under
this section;
(2) approve and certify or recertify owners of agricultural assets as eligible for the tax
credit under subdivision 2 subject to the allocation limits in paragraph (c);
(3) provide necessary and reasonable assistance and support to beginning farmers for
qualification and participation in financial management programs approved by the authority;
(4) refer beginning farmers to agencies and organizations that may provide additional
pertinent information and assistance; and
(5) notwithstanding section 41B.211, the Rural Finance Authority must share information
with the commissioner of revenue to the extent necessary to administer provisions under
this subdivision and section 290.06, subdivisions 37 and 38. The Rural Finance Authority
must annually notify the commissioner of revenue of approval and certification or
recertification of beginning farmers and owners of agricultural assets under this section.
For credits under subdivision 2, the notification must include the amount of credit approved
by the authority and stated on the credit certificate.
(b) The certification of a beginning farmer or an owner of agricultural assets under this section is valid for the year of the certification and the two following years, after which time the beginning farmer or owner of agricultural assets must apply to the authority for recertification.

c) For credits for owners of agricultural assets allowed under subdivision 2, the authority must not allocate more than $6,500,000 for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022, and before January 1, 2024; and $4,000,000 for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023. The authority must allocate credits on a first-come, first-served basis beginning on January 1 of each year, except that recertifications for the second and third years of credits under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (2), have first priority. Any amount authorized but not allocated for taxable years ending before January 1, 2023, is canceled and is not allocated for future taxable years. For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022, any amount authorized but not allocated in any taxable year does not cancel and is added to the allocation for the next taxable year. For each taxable year, 50 percent of newly allocated credits must be allocated to emerging farmers or owners of agricultural assets who sell or rent agricultural assets to beginning farmers who are experiencing limited land access. Any portion of a taxable year’s newly allocated credits that is reserved for sales or rentals to farmers experiencing limited land access that is not allocated by September 30 of the taxable year is available for allocation to other credit allocations beginning on October 1.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 41B.0391, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. Report to legislature. (a) No later than February 1, 2024, the Rural Finance Authority, in consultation with the commissioner of revenue, must provide a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees having jurisdiction over agriculture, economic development, rural development, and taxes, in compliance with sections 3.195 and 3.197, on the beginning farmer tax credits under this section issued in tax years beginning after December 31, 2017, and before January 1, 2024.

(b) The report must include background information on beginning farmers in Minnesota and any other information the commissioner and authority find relevant to evaluating the effect of the credits on increasing opportunities for and the number of beginning farmers.

c) For credits issued under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (3), the report must include:

(1) the number and amount of credits issued under each clause;

(2) the geographic distribution of credits issued under each clause;

(3) the type of agricultural assets for which credits were issued under clause (1);
48.26 (4) the number and geographic distribution of beginning farmers whose purchase or rental of assets resulted in credits for the seller or owner of the asset;
48.27 (5) the number and amount of credits disallowed under subdivision 2, paragraph (d);
48.28 (6) data on the number of beginning farmers by geographic region in calendar years 2017 through 2023, including:
48.29 (i) the number of beginning farmers by race and ethnicity, as those terms are applied in the 2020 United States Census; and
48.30 (ii) the number of beginning farmers who are experiencing limited land access and, to the extent available, the number of beginning farmers who are emerging farmers; and
48.31 (7) the number and amount of credit applications that exceeded the allocation available in each year.
48.32 (d) For credits issued under subdivision 3, the report must include:
48.33 (1) the number and amount of credits issued;
48.34 (2) the geographic distribution of credits;
48.35 (3) a listing and description of each approved financial management program for which credits were issued; and
48.36 (4) a description of the approval procedure for financial management programs not on the list maintained by the authority, as provided in subdivision 3, paragraph (a).
48.37 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

103.16 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41B.04, subdivision 8, is amended to read:
103.17 Subd. 8. State participation. With respect to loans that are eligible for restructuring under sections 41B.01 to 41B.23 and upon acceptance by the authority, the authority shall enter into a participation agreement or other financial arrangement whereby it shall participate in a restructured loan to the extent of 45 percent of the primary principal or $525,000, whichever is less. The authority's portion of the loan must be protected during the authority's participation by the first mortgage held by the eligible lender to the extent of its participation in the loan.
103.18 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41B.042, subdivision 4, is amended to read:
103.19 Subd. 4. Participation limit; interest. The authority may participate in new seller-sponsored loans to the extent of 45 percent of the principal amount of the loan or $500,000, whichever is less. The interest rates and repayment terms of the
Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41B.043, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

Subd. 1b. Loan participation. The authority may participate in an agricultural improvement loan with an eligible lender to a farmer who meets the requirements of section 41B.03, subdivision 1, clauses (1) and (2), and who is actively engaged in farming.

Participation is limited to 45 percent of the principal amount of the loan or $500,000, whichever is less. The interest rates and repayment terms of the authority's participation interest may be different than the interest rates and repayment terms of the lender's retained portion of the loan.

Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41B.045, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Loan participation. The authority may participate in a livestock expansion and modernization loan with an eligible lender to a livestock farmer who meets the requirements of section 41B.03, subdivision 1, clauses (1) and (2), and who are actively engaged in a livestock operation. A prospective borrower must have a total net worth, including assets and liabilities of the borrower's spouse and dependents, of less than $1,700,000 in 2017 and an amount in subsequent years which is adjusted for inflation by multiplying that amount by the cumulative inflation rate as determined by the United States All-Items Consumer Price Index.

Participation is limited to 45 percent of the principal amount of the loan or $525,000, whichever is less. The interest rates and repayment terms of the authority's participation interest may be different from the interest rates and repayment terms of the lender's retained portion of the loan.

Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41B.047, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Establishment. The authority shall establish and implement a disaster recovery loan program to help farmers:

(1) clean up, repair, or replace farm structures and septic and water systems, as well as replace seed, other crop inputs, feed, and livestock;

(2) purchase watering systems, irrigation systems, and other drought mitigation systems and practices, and feed when drought is the cause of the purchase;

(3) restore farmland;

(4) replace flocks or livestock, make building improvements, or cover the loss of revenue when the replacement, improvements, or loss of revenue is due to the confirmed presence of a highly contagious animal disease in a commercial poultry or game flock, or a commercial livestock operation, located in Minnesota; or

(5) restore farmland, including livestock, make building improvements, or cover the loss of revenue when the replacement, improvements, or loss of revenue is due to the confirmed presence of a highly contagious animal disease in a commercial poultry or game flock, or a commercial livestock operation, located in Minnesota; or

(6) remove, replace, clean up, or repair farm structures and septic and water systems, as well as replace seed, other crop inputs, feed, and livestock; purchase watering systems, irrigation systems, and other drought mitigation systems and practices, and feed when drought is the cause of the purchase; replace flocks or livestock, make building improvements, or cover the loss of revenue when the replacement, improvements, or loss of revenue is due to the confirmed presence of a highly contagious animal disease in a commercial poultry or game flock, or a commercial livestock operation, located in Minnesota; or remove, replace, clean up, or repair farm structures and septic and water systems, as well as replace seed, other crop inputs, feed, and livestock; purchase watering systems, irrigation systems, and other drought mitigation systems and practices, and feed when drought is the cause of the purchase; replace flocks or livestock, make building improvements, or cover the loss of revenue when the replacement, improvements, or loss of revenue is due to the confirmed presence of a highly contagious animal disease in a commercial poultry or game flock, or a commercial livestock operation, located in Minnesota; or
cover the loss of revenue when the revenue loss is due to an infectious human disease
for which the governor has declared a peacetime emergency under section 12.31.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 223.17, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. Financial statements. (a) Except as allowed in paragraph (c), a grain buyer
licensed under this chapter must annually submit to the commissioner a financial statement
prepared by a third-party independent accountant or certified public accountant in accordance
with generally accepted accounting principles, national or international accounting standards.
All the annual financial statement required under this subdivision must also:

(i) include, but not be limited to the following:
   (1) a balance sheet;
   (2) a statement of income (profit and loss);
   (3) a statement of retained earnings;
   (4) a statement of changes in financial position cash flow, and
   (5) a statement of the dollar amount of grain purchased in the previous fiscal year of the
   grain buyer;

(ii) be accompanied by a compilation report of the financial statement that is prepared
by a grain commission firm or a management firm approved by the commissioner or by an
independent public accountant, in accordance with standards established by the American
Institute of Certified Public Accountants or similar international standards;

(iii) be accompanied by an opinion statement from the certified public accountant
performing the audit; and

(iv) for grain buyers purchasing under $7,500,000 of grain annually, be reviewed by a
certified public accountant in accordance with standards established by the American
Institute of Certified Public Accountants or similar international standards.

(b) Except as allowed in paragraph (c), a grain buyer
licensed under this chapter must annually submit to the commissioner a financial statement
prepared by a third-party independent auditor or certified public accountant in accordance
with generally accepted accounting principles, national or international accounting standards.
The annual financial statement required under this subdivision must also:

(i) include, but not be limited to the following:
   (1) a balance sheet;
   (2) a statement of income (profit and loss);
   (3) a statement of retained earnings;
   (4) a statement of changes in financial position cash flow; and
   (5) a statement of the dollar amount of grain purchased in the previous fiscal year of the
   grain buyer;

(ii) be accompanied by a compilation report of the financial statement that is prepared
by a grain commission firm or a management firm approved by the commissioner or by an
independent public accountant, in accordance with standards established by the American
Institute of Certified Public Accountants or similar international standards;

(iii) be accompanied by an opinion statement from the certified public accountant
performing the audit; and

(iv) for grain buyers purchasing under $7,500,000 of grain annually, be reviewed by a
certified public accountant in accordance with standards established by the American
Institute of Certified Public Accountants or similar international standards.

(c) An audit must include an opinion statement from the certified public accountant, performing
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(d) An audit must include an opinion statement from the certified public accountant, performing
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(hhh) An audit must include an opinion statement from the certified public accountant, performing
the audit, and

(iii) An audit must include an opinion statement from the certified public accountant, performing
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(dddd) An audit must include an opinion statement from the certified public accountant, performing
the audit, and

(eeee) An audit must include an opinion statement from the certified public accountant, performing
the audit, and

(f) cover the loss of revenue when the revenue loss is due to an infectious human disease
for which the governor has declared a peacetime emergency under section 12.31.
of Certified Public Accountants or similar international standards. The audit must include an opinion statement from the certified public accountant performing the audit.

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

(c) A grain buyer who purchases grain immediately upon delivery solely with cash, certified check, a cashier's check, or a postal, bank, or express money order, as defined in section 223.16, subdivision 2a, paragraph (b), is exempt from this subdivision if the grain buyer's gross annual purchases are $1,000,000 or less.

(d) For an entity that qualifies for the exemption in paragraph (c), the commissioner retains the right to require the entity to provide the commissioner with financial reporting based on inspections, any report of nonpayment, or other documentation related to violations of this chapter, chapter 232, or Minnesota Rules, chapter 156.

(e) The commissioner may require an entity to provide additional financial statements or financial reporting, including audited financial statements.

(f) To ensure compliance with this chapter, the commissioner must annually review financial statements submitted under paragraph (a).

(g) The commissioner shall annually provide information on a person's fiduciary duties to each licensee. To the extent practicable, the commissioner must direct each licensee to provide this information to all persons required to certify the licensee's financial statement under paragraph (a), clause (4).

(h) The commissioner shall annually provide information on a person's fiduciary duties to each licensee. To the extent practicable, the commissioner must direct each licensee to provide this information to all persons required to certify the licensee's financial statement under paragraph (a), clause (4).

Subd. 7.

"Grain" means any cereal grain, coarse grain, or oilseed in unprocessed form for which a standard has been established by the United States Secretary of Agriculture, and edible beans, or agricultural crops designated by the commissioner by rule, product commonly referred to as grain, including wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, rice, soybeans, emmer, sorghum, triticale, millet, pulses, dry edible beans, sunflower seed, rapeseed, canola, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crambe, sesame seed, and other products ordinarily stored in grain warehouses.
Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 232.21, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. Producer. "Producer" means a person who owns or manages a grain producing or growing operation and holds or shares the responsibility for marketing that grain produced grows grain on land owned or leased by the person.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 232.21, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. Public grain warehouse operator. "Public grain warehouse operator" means:

1. a person licensed to operate a grain warehouse in which grain belonging to persons other than the grain warehouse operator is accepted for storage or purchase, or
2. a person who offers grain storage or grain warehouse facilities to the public for hire of whom it processes and returns to the grain's owner in amounts, at intervals, and with added ingredients that are mutually agreeable to the grain's owner and the person operating the plant.

Sec. 27. [346.021] FINDER TO GIVE NOTICE.

A person who finds an estray and knows who owns the estray must notify the estray's owner within seven days after finding the estray and request that the owner pay all reasonable charges and take the estray away. A finder who does not know who owns an estray must:

1. file a notice with the town or city clerk and post a physical or online notice of the finding of the estray. The notice must briefly describe the estray or provide a photograph of the estray, provide the residence or contact information of the finder, and provide the approximate location and time when the finder found the estray; or
2. surrender the estray to a local animal control agency within seven days.

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

Sec. 28. Laws 2023, chapter 43, article 2, section 142, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. Dairy law. Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 17.984; 32D.03, subdivision 5; 32D.24; 32D.25; subdivision 1; 32D.26; 32D.27; and 32D.28, are repealed.

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

Sec. 29. REVIVAL AND REENACTMENT.

Minnesota Statutes, section 32D.25, subdivision 2, is revived and reenacted effective retroactively from July 1, 2023.
**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 30. **LAND OWNERSHIP VIOLATION REPORTING.**

The commissioner of agriculture must establish and maintain an accessible and anonymous means for a person to report potential violations of the corporate farm law and alien farm law in Minnesota Statutes, sections 500.221 and 500.24.

Sec. 31. **REPORT REQUIRED; COOPERATIVE FINANCIAL REPORTING.**

The commissioner of agriculture shall convene a cooperative financial reporting workgroup, which must include producers who sell to a cooperative and representatives from cooperative management. The commissioner shall develop recommendations relating to requirements for cooperatives to report on financial condition and report back with recommendations to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture by January 3, 2025. Participating stakeholders must be given an opportunity to include written testimony to the legislative committees in the commissioner's report.

Sec. 32. **REPORT REQUIRED; CELL-CULTURED MEAT LABELING.**

The commissioner of agriculture shall evaluate options for labeling requirements for cell-cultured meat and report back with recommendations to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture by January 3, 2025.

Sec. 48. **CREDIT MARKET REPORT REQUIRED.**

The commissioner of agriculture must convene a stakeholder working group to explore the state establishing a market for carbon credits, ecosystem services credits, or other credits generated by farmers who implement clean water, climate-smart, and soil-healthy farming practices. To the extent practicable, the stakeholder working group must include but is not limited to farmers; representatives of agricultural organizations; experts in geoscience; carbon storage, greenhouse gas modeling, and agricultural economics; industry representatives with experience in carbon markets and supply chain sustainability; and representatives of environmental organizations with expertise in carbon sequestration and agriculture. No later than February 1, 2025, the commissioner must report recommendations to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture. The commissioner must provide participating stakeholders an opportunity to include written testimony in the commissioner's report.

Sec. 49. **REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 3.7371, subdivision 7, is repealed.

(b) Minnesota Rules, parts 1506.0010; 1506.0015; 1506.0020; 1506.0025; 1506.0030; 1506.0035; and 1506.0040, are repealed.

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 3.7371, subdivision 7; and 34.07, are repealed.

(b) Minnesota Rules, parts 1506.0010; 1506.0015; 1506.0020; 1506.0025; 1506.0030; 1506.0035; and 1506.0040, are repealed.
Sec. 19. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 34.07, is repealed.