

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill allows farm wineries to produce wine and fortified wine. It also lowers the required quantity of Minnesota-grown winemaking inputs in wine produced at farm wineries and allows startup wineries to use a larger quantity of imported winemaking products.

Section

- 1** **Farm winery.** Amends the definition of farm winery to include those producing fortified wine and wine.
- 2** **Fortified wine.** Defines fortified wine as any product defined in statute as "wine" that is fortified by adding alcohol or spirits.
- 3** **Farm winery license.** Allows the commissioner of public safety to issue a license to farm wineries producing fortified wine and wine. Authorizes farm wineries to sell fortified wine and wine.
- 4** **Minnesota products.** Lowers the required amount of Minnesota-grown products in wine produced by farm wineries from a majority to 40 percent.
- 5** **Startup operations.** Allows startup farm wineries to use a larger percentage of imported farm products during the first five years of licensed operation. In the first three years, the startup may use up to 100 percent imported products. For the next two years, up to 80 percent is allowed.