

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: S. F. 2226 **DATE:** May 3, 1999
Version: Unofficial engrossment
Authors: Holsten and others
Subject: Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Finance Bill
Analyst: Jeanne M. Cochran, 651-296-8961
John Helland, 651-296-5039
Sam Rankin, 651-296-5047

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

This is a summary of the Environment, Natural Resources, Agriculture finance bill. This document outlines the total amounts appropriated to each government entity covered by the bill, highlights the major appropriations riders, and summarizes the related statutory sections.

<u>Section</u>	<u>FY00</u>	<u>FY01</u> (Dollars in thousands)
Article 1:		
Environment and Natural Resources		
1	Environment and natural resources appropriations. Total:	339,462 314,774
2	Pollution control agency appropriations.	53,504 48,351

Major riders include:

Provides \$1.375 million each year for grants to local governments for implementation of phase II clean water partnership projects.

Provides \$265,000 from the general fund in fiscal year 2001 for grants to counties for the feedlot permitting program. Also, contingent upon adoption of feedlots rule changes, provides \$496,000 in the second year from the environmental fund for staff and associated expenses for purposes of addressing feedlots to improve water quality.

Adds \$375,000 each year for total maximum daily load studies to improve water quality of impaired waters.

A one time appropriation from the Petroleum Tank Release Fund of \$250,000 in fiscal year 2000 for emergency spill response equipment and related expenses to be used on the Mississippi River.

Provides \$200,000 each year for a grant to the University of Minnesota for the continued development of alternative discharging sewage systems.

Adds \$323,000 over the biennium for mercury reduction strategies. (See Section 63)

Provides \$275,000 over the biennium from the Solid Waste Fund for PCA staff expenses related to certain metropolitan landfills and \$396,000 over the biennium from the Solid Waste Fund to be transferred to the Department of Health for well monitoring and health assessments in areas affected by old dumps. These activities were funded by the Metropolitan Landfill Contingency Action Fund in the past.

Provides \$550,000 each year for continuation of the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) program.

A one time appropriation of \$85,000 from the Solid Waste Fund for a grant to Benton county to pay the principal on bonds issued to pay part of the settlement costs of a lawsuit for the cleanup of a landfill.

3 Office of environmental assistance appropriations. 21,131 21,219

Provides \$14,008,000 each year for SCORE block grants to counties.

A one-time appropriation of \$500,000 each year for an increase in the environmental assistance grant program.

Provides that a county which has received a grant from the Office of Environmental Assistance from funds appropriated last session is eligible for a second grant for the capital costs of the same project from other funds appropriated if the first grant covers less than 25% of the total capital costs of the project.

4 Zoological board. 7,349 7,429

\$3.8 million is a one-time appropriation from the general fund.

Requires a report to the legislature and governor analyzing alternative government structures, ownership, and possible ongoing costs to the state. Progress toward self-sufficiency must be demonstrated to receive the 2001 appropriation.

Allows an admission fee increase by April 1, 2000, and an analysis of different operating hours for possible revenue increase.

5 Department of natural resources. 202,455 199,635

Major riders include:

\$226,000 is to the Mississippi Headwaters Board to update and implement their comprehensive plan.

\$350,000 is to the Cannon River Watershed Partnership to protect and enhance the ecological integrity of the watershed. Encourages a joint powers board in the watershed to prepare a land use management and recreation plan.

\$1,600,000 is for grants to local government units in the Red River Basin for comprehensive watershed plans and interagency cooperation.

\$1,000,000 is for construction of ring dikes.

\$1,400,000 is transferred from once-through cooling fees to the general fund from the public facilities authority, and this continues for these fees until July 1, 2001.

\$ 7,000,000 are for presuppression and suppression costs of emergency fire fighting.

\$1,263,000 is for state park development projects.

\$9,900,000 is for metropolitan area regional parks and trails maintenance and operation, including a one-time amount of \$1,950,000 each year.

Allows the DNR and Minneapolis to enter into a 30-year lease for the golf course and polo grounds at Ft. Snelling.

\$400,000 is for a snowmobile trail connection from the Munger Trail to the North Shore trail.

\$120,000 is for the planning and development of the Gitchi-Gami Trail along Lake Superior.

\$550,000 is for nonpaved alternative trails adjacent to the Heartland and Paul Bunyon trails.

\$1,575,000 is to acquire and develop the off-highway vehicle recreation area on the Iron Range near Virginia.

\$1,000,000 is for St. Paul to acquire a portion of the Trout Brook corridor adjacent to I-35E.

\$320,000 each year must be used for fingerling purchase.

\$692,000 is for grants and technical assistance for local units acquiring and developing natural areas and greenways.

\$861,000 is for technical assistance and regional resource enhancement grants in the community assistance programs.

Allows a refund of the \$50 personal watercraft surcharge fee if repealed this year.

\$1,200,000 is for computer infrastructure and information technology.

Delays the electronic licensing system, except for telephone and Internet, from being implemented until July 1, 2000.

6 Board of water and soil resources. 19,006 18,559

Appropriates various amounts for easement program administration, soil and water conservation district cost-sharing contracts, local government block grants, general purpose soil and water conservation district grants to implement the RIM program, and Blue Earth and LeSueur river projects.

\$200,000 is a match with the Dakota states and Manitoba to develop a Red River basin water management plan.

\$500,000 is to stabilize shoreland and reduce flooding at Lake of the Isles in Minneapolis.

7 Citizen's council on Voyageurs National Park. 66

Sunsets the Council on June 30, 2000.

8 Science museum. 1,199 1,235

9	No money for the Minnesota-Wisconsin boundary area commission.		
10	Minnesota academy of science.	41	41
11	Transportation.	200	
	For a grant to Savage and Scott county for engineering and environmental studies for the extension of a highway near the Savage fen wetland.		
12	Administration.	200	200
13	Minnesota resources (legislative commission on).	29,245	13,005
	Minnesota Future Resources Fund	16,007	
	Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund	13,004	13,005
	Great Lakes Protection Account	200	
	94 projects from various resource categories are funded from these funds on pages 18 to 45. See last two pages from LCMR staff.		
14	Additional. An additional \$496,000 for state park and recreation area acquisition, and \$495,000 for metropolitan regional parks is appropriated from the environment and natural resources trust fund in fiscal year 1999.		
15	Rule exemption. Exempts electronic or telephone transaction fees of the DNR from rule making.		
16	Electronic transactions. Allows these transactions outside of the state.		
17	Software sales. Allows DNR sales of intellectual property and software products.		
18	Software receipts. Allows money received under section 17 to be spent on further product development.		
19-	Snowmobile trail grooming. Allows money in the snowmobile account to be also used for trail		
20	maintenance in Voyageur's National Park.		
21	Snowmobile training fee change. Allows the DNR to establish a fee to recovers costs, instead of \$5, for providing snowmobile safety training.		
22-	Youth snowmobile training and operation. Makes technical changes to law, including applicable		
24	statutory references for youth training and operation procedures.		
25	Snowmobile operation. Clarifies the misdemeanor penalty provision for driving while under the influence, and includes all-terrain vehicle operation.		
26	MCC fees. Allows service fees charged by the Minnesota Conservation Corps to be appropriated for their projects and administration.		
27	Blue Mounds state park. Adds 6/10 of an acre within the boundaries.		
28	Iron Range vehicle recreation area. Adds an area of land to the Iron Range off-highway vehicle recreation area near Virginia. Continues the previous advisory committee, requires a management plan, and allows for the possibility of future mining.		
29	State trail. Creates the Gitchi-Gami state trail along the North Shore.		
30	Park area grants. Removes the \$50,000 maximum grant amount to local units for park and recreation areas.		
31	Regional trails. Authorizes a grant program by the DNR to local units for 50% of regional trail costs.		
32	Local trail connections. Authorizes a similar program as above section to provide trail connections between communities, parks and other trails.		
33	Personal watercraft fee. Requires a personal watercraft license fee of \$25 for three years, a \$13 increase.		

- 34 Fire department grants.** Authorizes DNR fire suppression equipment grants to local fire departments.
- 35 Lakeshore leases.** Allows lakeshore leased lot exchange costs to be paid out of the lakeshore lease account.
- 36 Deer feeding.** Raises the unencumbered balance for emergency deer feeding to \$1,500,000 before half of it may be cancelled to the Game and Fish Fund.
- 37 Inmate free fishing.** Adds inmates of state correctional facilities to those who can fish free.
- 38 Under 18 fishing.** Includes youth under 18 (formerly 16) to fish for free.
- 39 Firearms safety certificate.** Clarifies identification needed when obtaining a firearms hunting license.
- 40 Watershed management board appointments.** Disallows an employee of a local government unit in the metropolitan area from being appointed to a watershed management organization board.
- 41 Soil and water conservation district allocation.** Requires the Board of Soil and Water Resources, if money is appropriated, to provide an annual allocation of general services funding to each district.
- 42- Blue Earth river basin initiative.** Creates the initiative within the watersheds of tributaries of the south-central Minnesota river, including portions of 11 counties. Authorizes the Board of Water and Soil Resources to provide grants for conservation practices, contains grant conditions and a basin planning requirement, provides for cooperation with Iowa, and requires a report after two years to the legislature, with recommendations on program continuation.
- 48**
- 49 Individual septic tank system form.** Requires local inspectors to use the PCA's standard form, and delineates the language to appear on the form.
- 50 Waste management hierarchy.** The waste management hierarchy lists waste management practices in order of preference. This section modifies that hierarchy by distinguishing between two types of land disposal. Provides that land disposal which uses methane gas produced at the landfill for energy is preferable to land disposal which does not use the methane gas in a productive manner but rather flares off the gas.
- 51- Technical sections.** Deletes references to existing statutory sections repealed by this bill.
- 52**
- 53 Solid waste fund authorized expenditures.** Authorizes the use of money from the Solid Waste Fund, subject to appropriation, to pay for private well supply monitoring and health assessment costs in areas contaminated by old dumps. Currently, these costs are paid for out of the metropolitan contingency action fund (MLCAF) for activities at or near dumps in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The authorization for spending from MLCAF is being repealed in this bill. (See section 93)
- 54 Closed landfill investment fund.** Creates the closed landfill investment fund in the state treasury and provides that \$5.1 million each year for four years beginning in fiscal year 2000 will be transferred to the fund. Money in the fund is to be invested by the state board of investment to maximize long term growth. After fiscal year 2020, money in the fund may be spent for closed landfills that are part of the state closed landfill program.
- 55 Mercury reduction.** Establishes goals and strategies for bringing about further reductions in mercury releases in the state. The section includes the recommendations of the Pollution Control Agency and an advisory council which had been working on the issue over the last year and a half.
- 56 Environmental review of certain metal shredding projects.** Requires all state and local permits, licenses and variances for certain metal shredding projects along a specified section of the Mississippi River to be issued if the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) finds that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not needed for such a project. Requires appeals of any decision of the

PCA relating to such projects be taken with the Court of Appeals. (Current law requires appeals of decisions relating to an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) or EIS be first brought in state district court.) Provides that the Court of Appeals can only enter a stay prohibiting construction of such metal shredding projects while an appeal is pending if there will be substantial damage to the environment, as demonstrated by clear and convincing evidence, and a bond covering lost profits and other potential damages is posted.

- 57- Technical.** Adding statutory references for recreational vehicle prior license revocation.
59
- 60 Technical.** Adding statutory references for enforcing DWI and chemical testing by peace officers.
- 61 Technical.** Clarifies full name and date of birth for records of snowmobile safety certificate.
- 62 Technical.** Contains similar clarification as above section for firearms safety certificate.
- 63- Nongame wildlife account.** Allows program gifts and contributions from individuals and
64 corporations as credited to the account.
- 65 Snowmobile gas tax.** Raises the unrefunded gas tax attributable to snowmobile use from 3/4 of one percent to one percent.
- 66 Report on solid waste management tax receipts.** Makes permanent the requirement that the Department of Revenue report on the amount of solid waste management tax receipts collected. Changes the reporting requirement from three times a year to two times a year.
- 67- Used oil collection.** Provides that the mandatory used oil collection program which would require
69 retailers that sell more than 1,000 motor oil filters per year at a single location to provide free collection of used motor oil and used motor oil filters from the public effective July 1, 1999 will not take effect. Instead, the bill makes the current voluntary program permanent and modifies the goals of the voluntary program with a permanent voluntary program. The voluntary program applies to motor oil and motor oil filter manufacturers and retailers. It includes goals of at least one nongovernmental collection site within a five mile radius of any resident in the seven-county metropolitan area and one nongovernmental site within a city or town with a population of greater than 1,500 people outside the metropolitan area.
- 70 Used oil education program.** Requires the Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA), in consultation with others, to educate the public and businesses on the proper management of used motor oil, used motor oil filters, and other automotive wastes. Authorizes the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) to transfer funds not needed for reimbursement of authorized costs associated with contaminated used motor oil to the OEA for education purposes. Requires the OEA and PCA to post educational materials relating to proper disposal of used motor oil and used motor oil filters on the World Wide Web.
- 71 Liability exemption.** Makes the liability exemption applicable to persons who collect used motor oil and used motor oil filters from the public for free under the voluntary program and to persons who contract for the collection such materials under the voluntary program.
- 72 Contaminated used motor oil reimbursement account.** Authorizes the PCA to spend up to \$50,000 in the fund for the study required by section 86.
- 73- Technical.** Changes the term "forestry development project" to "natural resource development
74 project" and describes these projects for contract and bond purposes.
- 75 Forest resources council.** Sunsets the council on December 31, 1999.
- 76 Used motor oil collection goals and education.** Deletes references to used motor oil and used motor oil filter collection goals that were to have been met by December 31, 1998. New goals are established in section 75. Shifts responsibility for preparing a list of all used motor oil and motor oil filter collection sites in the state from the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) to the Office of

Environmental Assistance. Deletes reference to an outdated reporting requirement.

- 77- Bonding projects.** Changes the phasing of two 1998 projects in Anoka and Stearns counties on
78 how money is allocated.
- 79- Airport noise mitigation.** Requires identification of areas of airport noise to the 60 LDN levels,
80 and a report by the Metropolitan airports commission to the legislature by February 1, 2000, on costs of mitigating adverse environmental effects of aircraft noise.
- 81 Analysis of used oil filter disposal methods.** Requires the PCA, in consultation with interested parties, to analyze the technical feasibility of alternative methods of disposing of and recycling of used motor oil filters and to report to the legislature on the same by January 15, 2001.
- 82 Rock county land.** Allows the DNR to sell 6/10 of an acre of land in Blue Mounds state park to the adjacent landowner.
- 83 Phalen creek watershed.** Prohibits athletic fields within the Lower Phalen creek area slated for inclusion with the metro greenways program.
- 84 DNR rules.** Revokes rulemaking occurring in October, 1998, relating to forest and park use.
- 85 Farmstead windbreaks.** Requires rulemaking for cost-sharing by the Board of Water and Soil Resources.
- 86 Fishing devices.** Requires a DNR study and report to the legislature on electronic devices used for consumptive activities in fish and wildlife resources.
- 87 Conservation license.** Requires a DNR study and report to the legislature on the feasibility of creating a conservation angling license that imposes lower catch limits.
- 88 Park lifetime pass.** Requires a DNR study and report to the legislature on the possibility of a lifetime state park entrance pass for residents.
- 89 Consolidated conservation lands.** Rescinds the 1999 DNR order making "con-con" lands wildlife management areas.
- 90 Central Collection Wastewater Treatment System.** Requires the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) to convene a committee of interested persons to address the need for central collection wastewater treatment systems in unsewered areas. Requires the committee to evaluate the effectiveness of alternative system designs and identify regulatory and other barriers to cost-efficient design and construction. The PCA is to report to the legislature the results of the committee's work.
- 91 Fish and wildlife agency.** Requires a study and analysis by the office of strategic and long-range planning on making the DNR fish and wildlife division a separate state agency. The study must be delivered to the legislature by February 1, 2000.
- 92 Repealers.** The following sections are repealed the day following final enactment:
- 86B.415, subdivision 7a - surcharge on personal watercraft;watercraft;
 - 115A.929 - separate accounting for waste management fees collected by a politicalpolitical subdivision;
 - 115A.9651 - restricting the use of certain chemicals in inks, dyes, pigments, paintspaints and fungicides;
 - 115A.981 - annual solid waste management economic status and outlook report byby the Pollution Control Agency;
 - 297H.13, subdivision 6 - reporting by the Pollution Control Agency regarding thethe extent to which a political subdivision is subsidizing the cost of solid waste collection; and
 - 473.845, subdivision 2 - authorizes expenditures by the Department of Health fromfrom the Metropolitan Landfill Contingency Action Fund for ground water monitoring and health

assessments in areas affected by old dumps in the metropolitan area.

The following sections are repealed effective July 1, 1999:

1.31 - Minnesota/Wisconsin boundary compact; and
325E.112, subdivision 5 - enforcement authority for the mandatory used oil collection program; the mandatory program is replaced with a voluntary program in section 75.

The following section is repealed effective June 30, 2000:

84B.11 - Citizen's Council on Voyageurs National Park.

93 **Effective dates.** Provides specific effective dates for a number of sections.

Article 2:

Agriculture

1 Agriculture appropriations. Explains the format of the appropriations section and summarizes the amounts to be appropriated from the general fund and other funds.

2 Agriculture department.

Subd. 1. Total appropriation. General fund, special revenue fund, and environmental fund appropriations for agriculture department activities total \$38,632,000 in fiscal year 2000 and \$34,016,000 in fiscal year 2001.

Subd. 2. Agriculture department protection services. Establishes dollar amounts from eight special revenue accounts to provide target level funding for the designated programs. The department is allowed to spend additional available amounts from the special revenue accounts after providing notice to the legislature.

Significant riders
in this
subdivision
include:

\$200,000 to the seed potato inspection fund to eliminate the need for a fee increase;

\$100,000 for a feasibility study of a joint agency laboratory;

\$300,000 to the grain inspection account to cover a shortfall; and

\$316,000 to provide compensation for wildlife damage to crops and livestock.

Subd. 3. Agriculture department marketing and development.

Significant riders in this subdivision include:

\$74,117,000 for ethanol producer payments;

\$200,000 for an operating loan for a plant intended to use poultry litter as a fuel for electric generation;

\$300,000 for a loan to a cooperative that builds a livestock packing plant;

\$50,000 for a study on the need for a commercial shipping port available to cooperatives and farmers;

\$300,000 for a loan to an alfalfa pelletizing plant;

\$500,000 of loan repayments from existing ethanol plants is made available for an operating loan to one additional ethanol plant;
\$1,500,000 for research on soybean diseases;
\$100,000 for research on turkey respiratory disease;
\$100,000 for research on potato aphids;
\$120,000 for a grant to the Minnesota extension service for farm safety and health programs.
\$500,000 for drainage and water quality research and demonstration projects;
\$500,000 for additional funding of research projects at University of Minnesota agricultural experiment stations;
\$300,000 for a planning grant for an urban agricultural high school;
\$1,362,000 for agricultural market development;
\$30,000 for a study of producer production contracts;
\$400,000 for financial assistance to farmers applying for operating loans;
\$1,070,000 for manure odor research;
\$150,000 for beaver damage control;
\$160,000 for sustainable agriculture demonstration project grants;
and
\$1,002,000 for dairy diagnostic teams.

Subd. 4. Agriculture department administration and financial assistance.

Significant riders in this subdivision include:

\$510,000 for the farm program advocates;
\$250,000 for a rapid response fund so that the commissioner can take immediate action in case of an emerging pest or disease problem;
\$300,000 for the five agriculture information centers;
\$350,000 for the WIC coupon program;
\$3,464,000 for technology improvements at the department of agriculture;
\$467,000 for the dairy inspection account; and
\$50,000 for a study of the business climate for dairy farmers.

3 Board of animal health.

Appropriates \$6,024,000 to the board for animal health activities, including:

\$236,000 for an investigation of avian pneumovirus disease,
\$300,000 for control of Johne's disease in cattle, and
\$250,000 for pseudorabies control.

4 Minnesota horticultural society. Appropriates \$164,000 to the society

for activities during the biennium.

- 5 Agricultural utilization research institute.** Appropriates \$8,660,000 to AURI for programs and activities. Requires AURI to collaborate with the commissioner of agriculture on market development and technology transfer. \$400,000 is for hybrid tree management research and development.
- 6 Value-added agricultural product processing and marketing grant programs.** Increases the purposes for which grants may be used to include management, product development, business and marketing plans.
- 7 Awarding of shared savings loans.** Adds two farmers who use organic agriculture methods to the panel that reviews applications for loans under the sustainable agriculture shared savings loan program.
- 8 Awarding of sustainable agriculture demonstration grants.** Adds two farmers who use organic agriculture methods to the panel that reviews applications for loans under the sustainable agriculture demonstration grants program.
- 9 Membership, feedlot and manure management advisory committee.** Adds two solid manure applicators and two liquid manure applicators who are not livestock producers to the committee.
- 10 Farmed cervidae.** Expands the allowed purposes for raising farmed cervidae to include "shooting" and "harvesting."
- 11 Raising farmed cervidae is an agricultural pursuit.** Expands the existing declaration that raising farmed cervidae is an agricultural pursuit by clarifying that the animals may be sold for personal consumption or taken on a licensed shooting preserve.
- 12 Slaughter.** Narrows the application of the requirement that farmed cervidae be slaughtered and inspected under an approved federal inspection program. Only animals sold for commercial meat purposes must now meet this requirement.
- 13 Cervidae shooting preserves.** Establishes standards and licensing fees for a cervidae shooting preserve.

The annual fee, for deposit in the game and fish fund, is \$900. The commissioner of agriculture may license up to 10 cervidae shooting preserves in the state.

Only animals from herds in the accredited program of the board of animal health may be released on a licensed shooting preserve.

A shooting preserve must be physically separated from breeding pens or pastures where farmed cervidae are kept.

A shooting preserve must be not less than 240 nor more than 960 contiguous acres in size and have adequate screening cover for the animals. Fences must be at least 96 inches tall and boundaries of the preserve must be posted.

Wild cervidae must be removed from the preserve before farmed cervidae are introduced.

The hunting season on a cervidae shooting preserve is August 15 through March 31, and a patron is not required to obtain a state hunting license.

Weapons used on the preserve must comply with those authorized to take wild cervidae in the same area.

The operator of a shooting preserve may establish more restrictive regulations than the minimum provided in law.

Cervidae released on a shooting preserve must bear a permanent identification mark. Harvested cervidae must be tagged during transport.

The operator of the shooting preserve must keep extensive records which must be open to inspection by the department of agriculture at reasonable times.

- 14 Pesticide registration.** Allows the commissioner of agriculture to exempt certain minimum risk pesticides from registration requirements.
- 15 Definition; eligible person.** Current law specifies three municipal airports that are covered by the ACRRA provisions. The definition is amended so that all municipal airports are covered.
- 16 Financial security; municipal airports.** Adds a new section making it clear that a municipal airport has the right to require aerial pesticide applicators to post financial security for any necessary corrective action.
- 17 Delegation to local board of health.** Requires the commissioner of agriculture to delegate all inspection duties for grocery and convenience stores to local boards of health.
- 18 Food handler fees.** Increases the fees for food handlers by approximately 7 percent beginning July 1, 1999.
- 19 Certificate fees.** Authorizes the department of agriculture to collect a fee of \$75 for providing a variety of certificates needed for the export of Minnesota foods.
- 20 Meat and poultry rules.** Updates reference to federal rules for conformity of the Minnesota meat inspection program.
- 21 Duties of the commissioner; organic foods.** Adds duties for the commissioner to support and promote organic food use through demonstrations, research, and marketing development. Requires an annual report from the commissioner to the legislature on state, federal, and private developments in the area of organic agriculture.
- 22 Organizations certifying "organic grown."** Reorganizes the composition and specific mission of the Minnesota organic advisory task force. Extends the life of the task force from June 30, 2001 to June 30, 2003.
- 23-30 Meat inspection policy and program.** Extends the Minnesota meat inspection program to cover poultry processors and references appropriate federal inspection standards.
- 31 Daily price reports by packers.** Requires packers to report to USDA and the Minnesota department of agriculture on the contract and cash market sale prices paid on that day. The commissioner of agriculture is to make the information available in an electronic medium.
- 32 Penalties; adulterated milk.** The permit for a producer of Grade A or manufacturing milk whose milk is found to be adulterated must be converted to "temporary status" for up to 30 days during which the

producer must complete a study on "residue prevention" and take actions to remove the adulterant from the milk. During this time milk shipped by the producer can be used only for manufacturing purposes. A producer that has completed the study and corrected the problem before the expiration of the 30-day temporary status can resume shipment of Grade A milk. A producer that has not completed the study and corrected the problem by the expiration of the 30-day temporary status can no longer ship Grade A milk.

- 33- Board of animal health; executive director.** Changes the name of the
- 34** head of the board of animal health from "executive secretary" to "executive director."
- 35 Authority; board of animal health.** Allows the board of animal health to implement a voluntary John's disease herd status program for cattle.
- 36- Board of animal health; executive director.** Changes the name of the
- 45** head of the board of animal health from "executive secretary" to "executive director."
- 46 Ethanol producer payment program.** Expands the ethanol producer payment program to allow all ethanol plants to receive \$3,000,000 per year if they produce 15,000,000 gallons or more of ethanol. Also allows Minnesota Brewing to get producer payments at the \$3,000,000 per year level.
- 47 Agricultural education.** Expands the types of educational programs eligible to receive Minnesota agriculture education leadership council grants to elementary programs in addition to just secondary level programs.
- 48 Eligible land.** Partially removes a restriction prohibiting conservation reserve program acres from being set aside, enrolled, or diverted simultaneously under another federal or state program. The exception would apply only if enrollment in multiple programs would provide additional conservation benefits or extend the enrollment program.
- 49 Accredited or approved college of veterinary medicine.** Updates a reference to the specific body within the American Veterinary Medical Association that establishes accreditation standards for veterinary colleges.
- 50 Definition; animal.** The current definition of "animal" excludes poultry and any kind of bird. The new definition will exclude only poultry.
- 51 Definition; firm.** Creates a new definition for the term "firm," meaning corporations, limited liability companies, or limited liability partnerships wherever registered.
- 52 Board of veterinary medicine; officers.** Updates language concerning officers of the board and references to a national veterinary organization.
- 53 License application.** Requires an applicant for a license to file the application 60 days (rather than the current 45 days) before the examination.
- 54 Information required with application.** Clarifies existing language and authorizes the use of an ECFVG certificate as evidence of veterinary training.
- 55 Examination; payment.** Clarifies and expands existing language

concerning required national and state examinations and fees for the exams.

56 Nonresidents; veterinary licenses.

Subd. 1. Application. Affords recognition to training and examination earned

in other states and provinces of Canada if the applicant has had recent practice experience.

Subd. 2. Required with application. Updates and adds to the documents that must be included by a nonresident applying for a Minnesota license.

Subd. 3. Examination. Requires an applicant with no practice experience in the previous 5 years to take the current state examination.

Subd. 4. Temporary permit. Modifies the conditions under which an applicant may receive a temporary permit to practice veterinary medicine in the state.

57 Temporary license. Creates a new temporary license option (up to 2 years) for persons to work under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

58 Unlawful practice without license or permit; gross misdemeanor. Specifies that practicing veterinary medicine without a license or permit is a gross misdemeanor.

59 Firms not to practice. Current language prohibits a "corporation" from the practice of veterinary medicine in the state. A change incorporates the newly defined and broadened term "firm." Also clarifies the time period for reorganizing a veterinary medical practice after the death of one of the owners.

60 Authorized activities. Makes a technical change to the type of care an owner can provide to the owner's animal.

61 Titles. Clarifies prohibitions on the use of terms indicating veterinary training by persons who are not trained and licensed.

62 Fuel supply contract. Allows NSP to satisfy up to 75 megawatts of its biomass electric production mandate by converting it to a fuel supply agreement with an available fuel supplier.

63 Gasoline; minimum oxygen content required. Expands the number of subdivisions containing exceptions to the oxygenate mandate.

64 Exemption for certain vehicles. Strikes from current language the notation that the exemptions do not apply during a carbon monoxide control period in a carbon monoxide control area. (The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency currently prohibits the sale of non-oxygenated gasoline in a 10-county area during the months of October through January. The change in Minnesota Statute will not override the EPA prohibition.) Also requires a retail gasoline station that sells nonoxygenated gasoline to file an annual report on sales of nonoxygenated gasoline with the division of weights and measures, department of public service.

65 Exemption for certain riparian landowners. Creates a new subdivision allowing the delivery of non-oxygenated gasoline to a stationary bulk fuel storage tank on littoral or riparian properties if the tank is under the control

of the property owner. The non-oxygenated gasoline must be used only in vehicles that currently qualify for an exemption.

- 66 Exemption for aircraft operators.** Creates a new subdivision allowing the delivery of non-oxygenated gasoline to a bulk fuel storage tank for use in aircraft.
- 67 Definition; demonstration corporation.** For purposes of Minnesota's corporate farm law, defines a corporation that demonstrates historical farming practices as a "demonstration corporation."
- 68 Farming and ownership of agricultural land by corporations restricted.** For purposes of Minnesota's corporate farm law, allows a "demonstration corporation" to own agricultural land and perform farming operations.
- 69 Roundtable on agricultural producer contracts.** Establishes a roundtable consisting of 22 appointed members to study the issues of crop and livestock production under contract with processors. The department of agriculture is to provide staff support. The roundtable must report to the legislature by January 15, 2000 on its findings and recommendations.
- 70 Business climate for dairy farmers.** Instructs the commissioner of agriculture to lead a study, along with the legislature and Minnesota farm organizations, on the dairy economy. By February 15, 2000, the commissioner is to report to the legislature with a strategic plan on how to assure financial stability in the dairy industry.
- 71 Price fixing, antitrust, and anticompetitive activities.** Instructs the attorney general to investigate antitrust and price fixing activities by purchasers of farm crops and livestock.
- 72 Urban agricultural high school.** Establishes a working group to collaborate with the Minnesota agriculture education leadership council to develop a proposal for an urban agricultural high school and the development of agribusiness partnerships. MAELC is to report to the legislature by January 15, 2000.
- 73 Feedlot rule review.** Prohibits the implementation of new feedlot rules or fees until 60 days after the proposed rules have been reviewed and approved by the Senate and House agriculture policy committees.
- 74 Investigation required.** Instructs the attorney general to investigate the impact of corporate mergers on agricultural procedures. Requires a report to the legislature by February 15, 2000.
- 75 Revisor instruction.** Instructs the revisor of statutes to renumber a subdivision dealing with licensure of veterinarians as a section.
- 76 Repealer.** Repeals enabling legislation for the Dairy Producers Board. Repeals statutes restricting the mobility of cattle that were intended to control the spread of brucellosis. Repeals a section establishing a limit on the applicability of the meat inspection program. Repeals the entire chapter on licensing and permitting of entities wishing to do weather modification.
- 77 Effective date.** Establishes the effective dates for various sections.