

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-THIRD SESSION**

S.F. No. 2547

(SENATE AUTHORS: FRENTZ)

DATE
03/06/2023

D-PG

Introduction and first reading
Referred to Environment, Climate, and Legacy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to environment; appropriating money for a weather resilience program in
1.3 the University of Minnesota Extension Service.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION**
1.6 **SERVICE WEATHER READY PROGRAM.**

1.7 (a) \$..... in fiscal year 2024 is appropriated from the general fund to the Board of Regents
1.8 of the University of Minnesota for a program in the University of Minnesota Extension
1.9 Service that will enhance the capacity of the state's agricultural sector, land and resource
1.10 managers, and communities to plan for and adapt to weather extremes like droughts and
1.11 floods. The base in fiscal year 2025 is \$..... and the base in fiscal year 2026 is \$0.

1.12 (b) This appropriation must be used to support existing extension service staff members
1.13 and to hire additional staff members for a program with broad geographic reach throughout
1.14 the state. The program must:

1.15 (1) identify, develop, implement, and evaluate educational programs that increase the
1.16 capacity of Minnesota's agricultural sector, land and resource managers, and communities
1.17 to adapt and be prepared for projected physical changes in temperature, precipitation, and
1.18 other weather parameters that affect crops, lands, horticulture, pests, and wildlife in ways
1.19 that present challenges to the state's agricultural sector and the communities that depend on
1.20 it; and

1.21 (2) communicate and interpret the latest research on critical weather trends and the
1.22 science behind them to further prepare extension service staff throughout the state to educate

- 2.1 the agricultural sector, land and resource managers, and community members at the local
- 2.2 level regarding technical information on water resource management, agriculture and forestry,
- 2.3 engineering and infrastructure design, and emergency management that is necessary for the
- 2.4 development of strategies to mitigate the effects of extreme weather change.