

2008 Minnesota Legislative Session Action

This is a detailed list of individual bills the Minnesota Agri-Growth Council lobbied on and monitored this past session. For more information, contact the Council at 651-905-8900 or info@agrifrowth.org.

Bills and Issues	Supported	Opposed	Monitored	Status
HF863: Adopts California Clean Air Act emission standards for motor vehicles.		X		Failed to pass the Senate and House floors.
HF2573/SF2449: Makes it a violation to apply a pesticide to a site where an application has not been requested, ordered, contracted for or permitted.			X	Included in the Omnibus Ag Policy Bill and signed into law.
HF2631/SF2594: Dairy investment matching grant program that would appropriate up to \$40,000 to dairy producers who milk 100 cows or less.	X			Died in Committee.
HF2754/SF3046: Prohibition of poultry and pork products containing arsenic additives from retail sales to stores and restaurants.		X		Died in Committee.
HF2800/SF2521: Omnibus Transportation Finance bill containing a 5-cent motor fuels gas tax.			X	The bill was vetoed by the Governor but sustained by the Legislature.
HF2942/SF2704: \$1 million Livestock Investment Grant Program. The program provides grants, equal to 10 percent of the first \$500,000 of qualifying investments, to producers investing in their operation.	X			Included in the Omnibus Ag Policy Bill and signed into law.
HF2953/SF2595: First District Association and City of Litchfield wastewater treatment facility improvement project.	X			Included in the Bonding Bill and signed into law.
HF2983/SF2517: Ballast water management plan. Operators of vessels that carry ballast water are directed to manage their ballast water operations according to an approved plan and keep a ballast water record book on board the vessel to record vessel discharges.		X		The bill was amended to SF3056. The bill as then passed and signed into law.
HF2987/SF2724: Increasing the minimum content of biodiesel from B2 to B20 by 2015.			X	Included in the Omnibus Ag Policy Bill and signed to the law.

Bills and Issues	Supported	Opposed	Monitored	Status
HF3139/SF2878: The bill allows foreign-trained veterinarians to submit "PAVE" certification as a demonstration of knowledge and skill equivalent to that of a graduate of an accredited and approved college of veterinary medicine.			X	Included in the Omnibus Ag Policy Bill and signed to the law.
HF3195/SF2818: Requires studies and guidelines for the state to implement a cap and trade program to regulate industry green house gas emissions. The bill was amended to only include a series of studies and gives guidelines to the governor when seeking a Midwest compact.			X	The bill was passed and signed into law.
HF3361/SF3326: Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) provision on payment of corrective action costs related to ACCRA.			X	Included in the Omnibus Ag Policy Bill and signed to the law.
HF3362/SF2983: MDA bill that authorizes MDA to deny a new or revoke an existing fertilizer or pesticide license, registration or permit held by a person from another state if another state has taken a similar action or the person has run afoul of federal pesticide law.			X	Included in the Omnibus Ag Policy Bill and signed to the law.
HF3507/SF3327: MDA food handles bill that requires the MDA to adopt and apply the grade/weight/quality standards issued by the USDA. Lowers the allowable temperature of eggs sold at retail from 45 to 41.			X	Included in the Omnibus Ag Policy Bill and signed to the law.
HF3552/SF3262: Adds a member of the forestry industry to the NextGen Board.			X	Included in the Omnibus Ag Policy Bill and signed to the law.
HF3584/SF3165: Allows a licensed chiropractor to practice on animals if the chiropractor meets specific education and training requirements and is registered with the Board of Chiropractic Examiners to perform animal chiropractic diagnosis and treatment.			X	Included in the Omnibus Ag Policy Bill and signed to the law.

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HF1997/SF2055: The bill would move much of the registration and oversight authority of pesticides from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to the Minnesota Department of Health.		X		Died in Committee.
HF2459/SF2994: Allows for expanded access to agriculture pesticide application information for commercial, noncommercial and private applicators.		X		Died in Committee
HF2863/SF3050: Extends the expiration date of the Minnesota Agriculture Education Leadership Council.	X			Included in the Omnibus Ag Policy Bill and signed to the law.
SF3296: Country of Origin Labeling Act.		X		Died in Committee.
HF4075/SF3728: The bill provides for bovine tuberculosis management zones, cattle herd buyouts and a cost-share assistance for fencing. It also requires the Board of Animal Health to conduct a risk assessment for cattle continuing to be located within a management zone; modifies restrictions and penalties for wildlife feeding within a specified area of an infected cattle herd; and requires an assessment on cattle.	X			Signed into law.
HF2196/SF2083: Requires MDA to designate a place in each county, open at least every other year, where residents can drop off waste pesticides and requires MDA to fully reimburse local units of government that form cooperative agreements with MDA to collect and dispose of waste pesticides.			X	Included in the Omnibus Ag Policy Bill and signed to the law.
HF2196/SF3537: Creates a state regulatory protocol for industrial hemp and provides for the establishment of industrial hemp as an additional cash crop option for Minnesota farmers.			X	Failed in the Omnibus Agriculture Policy Conference Committee.

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HF456/SF875: Increases the state minimum wage, indexes future increases, eliminates the training wage, and requires employers to provide written notice regarding the applicable state or federal minimum wage law.		X		The bill was vetoed by the Governor.
HF3902/SF3683: Omnibus Agriculture Policy Bill. Includes many of the provisions/bills seen above.	X			Signed into law.
HF3486/SF3314: Road authorities are allowed to issue annual permits authorizing extended axle-weight limits for vehicles hauling raw or unprocessed agricultural products. These vehicles may only operate on Minnesota trunk highways and local roads.			X	Signed into law.
HF1219/SF2197: Milk truck road weight restrictions do not apply to vehicles transporting milk from the point of production to the processing plant.	X			Signed into law.