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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1920

03/16/2015 Authored by Bly and Rosenthal
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Agriculture Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to higher education; establishing a young farmer summer seminar and
1.3 practicum program; exempting program participants from certain labor laws;
1.4 appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 177.23,
1.5 subdivision 7; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 136A.

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

1.7 Section 1. **[136A.1285] YOUNG FARMER SUMMER SEMINAR AND**
1.8 **PRACTICUM PROGRAM.**

1.9 Subdivision 1. Program establishment. The office, in consultation with the
1.10 commissioner of agriculture, shall facilitate a young farmer summer seminar and practicum
1.11 program available to undergraduate students enrolled at a baccalaureate-granting
1.12 Minnesota public or private postsecondary institution, college, or university.

1.13 Subd. 2. Program components. (a) Participating students must complete at least
1.14 two days per week, on average, of coursework in animal science, soil science, ecology,
1.15 environmental science, horticulture, plant biology, and political science.

1.16 (b) Participating students must complete an unpaid internship at a participating farm.

1.17 Subd. 3. Lead institution, college, or university; course credit. (a) The
1.18 commissioner must solicit proposals and select an institution, college, or university to
1.19 administer the program.

1.20 (b) An institution, college, or university must provide participating students with
1.21 academic credit upon successful completion of the young farmer summer seminar and
1.22 practicum program.

1.23 Subd. 4. State financial support. The commissioner must award program funding
1.24 to the lead institution, college, or university selected under subdivision 3.

2.1 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 177.23, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

2.2 Subd. 7. **Employee.** "Employee" means any individual employed by an employer
2.3 but does not include:

2.4 (1) two or fewer specified individuals employed at any given time in agriculture on a
2.5 farming unit or operation who are paid a salary;

2.6 (2) any individual employed in agriculture on a farming unit or operation who is
2.7 paid a salary greater than the individual would be paid if the individual worked 48 hours at
2.8 the state minimum wage plus 17 hours at 1-1/2 times the state minimum wage per week;

2.9 (3) an individual under 18 who is employed in agriculture on a farm to perform
2.10 services other than corn detasseling or hand field work when one or both of that minor
2.11 hand field worker's parents or physical custodians are also hand field workers;

2.12 (4) for purposes of section 177.24, an individual under 18 who is employed as a
2.13 corn detasseler;

2.14 (5) any staff member employed on a seasonal basis by an organization for work in an
2.15 organized resident or day camp operating under a permit issued under section 144.72;

2.16 (6) any individual employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional
2.17 capacity, or a salesperson who conducts no more than 20 percent of sales on the premises
2.18 of the employer;

2.19 (7) any individual who renders service gratuitously for a nonprofit organization;

2.20 (8) any individual who serves as an elected official for a political subdivision or who
2.21 serves on any governmental board, commission, committee or other similar body, or who
2.22 renders service gratuitously for a political subdivision;

2.23 (9) any individual employed by a political subdivision to provide police or fire
2.24 protection services or employed by an entity whose principal purpose is to provide police
2.25 or fire protection services to a political subdivision;

2.26 (10) any individual employed by a political subdivision who is ineligible for
2.27 membership in the Public Employees Retirement Association under section 353.01,
2.28 subdivision 2b, clause (1), (2), (4), or (9);

2.29 (11) any driver employed by an employer engaged in the business of operating
2.30 taxicabs;

2.31 (12) any individual engaged in babysitting as a sole practitioner;

2.32 (13) for the purpose of section 177.25, any individual employed on a seasonal basis
2.33 in a carnival, circus, fair, or ski facility;

2.34 (14) any individual under 18 working less than 20 hours per workweek for a
2.35 municipality as part of a recreational program;

3.1 (15) any individual employed by the state as a natural resource manager 1, 2, or
 3.2 3 (conservation officer);

3.3 (16) any individual in a position for which the United States Department of
 3.4 Transportation has power to establish qualifications and maximum hours of service under
 3.5 United States Code, title 49, section 31502;

3.6 (17) any individual employed as a seafarer. The term "seafarer" means a master
 3.7 of a vessel or any person subject to the authority, direction, and control of the master
 3.8 who is exempt from federal overtime standards under United States Code, title 29,
 3.9 section 213(b)(6), including but not limited to pilots, sailors, engineers, radio operators,
 3.10 firefighters, security guards, pursers, surgeons, cooks, and stewards;

3.11 (18) any individual employed by a county in a single-family residence owned by a
 3.12 county home school as authorized under section 260B.060 if the residence is an extension
 3.13 facility of that county home school, and if the individual as part of the employment duties
 3.14 resides at the residence for the purpose of supervising children as defined by section
 3.15 260C.007, subdivision 4; ~~or~~

3.16 (19) nuns, monks, priests, lay brothers, lay sisters, ministers, deacons, and other
 3.17 members of religious orders who serve pursuant to their religious obligations in schools,
 3.18 hospitals, and other nonprofit institutions operated by the church or religious order; or

3.19 (20) any individual who renders service gratuitously for a farm as part of the young
 3.20 farmer summer seminar and practicum program under section 136A.1285.

3.21 **Sec. 3. APPROPRIATION; YOUNG FARMERS SUMMER SEMINAR.**

3.22 \$..... in fiscal year 2016 and \$..... in fiscal year 2017 are appropriated from the
 3.23 general fund to the commissioner of the Office of Higher Education for the young farmer
 3.24 summer seminar and practicum program in this act.