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S.F. No. 4214—Avian influenza prevention program

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SF 4214 establishes a grant program for poultry producers to install deterrents to keep wild birds away from their flocks to prevent the spread of avian influenza.

Section 1 describes the program.

Paragraph (a) allows the commissioner of agriculture to award grants and establish a maximum grant award amount to prevent the transmission of avian influenza.

Paragraph (b) states that an eligible poultry producer must only use grants for flocks within Minnesota.

Paragraph (c) states that a poultry producer must document cost-share expenditures of 20% of the deterrent costs covered by the grant. The cost-share amount may be reduced by up to \$2,000 to cover time and labor costs.

Paragraph (d) describes the deterrents eligible for grant support, including lasers or lighting systems, visual deterrents, and sound systems or air cannons.

Paragraph (e) includes responsibilities of grant recipients, who must try to prevent the spread of avian influenza, document expenses, report on the effectiveness of deterrent methods, and allow monitoring and evaluations.

Section 2 appropriates money for the program in section 1.

This bill would be effective the day following final enactment.