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## **S.F. No. 5142 – Autonomous mowers research authorized (as proposed to be amended by A-3 delete-everything amendment)**

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**S.F. 5142, as proposed to be amended by the A-3 delete-everything,** requires the Department of Transportation (“MnDOT”) to conduct research into autonomous mowing technology, which are robotic or automated devices designed to cut grass or vegetation with programming or predefined routes to minimize the need for human intervention. Requires the commissioner to study autonomous mowing operations by other governments or private entities to determine whether such a system can be deployed at rest areas, at or alongside the trunk highway, or at other property owned by MnDOT. Research must study different configurations and types of autonomous mowers to determine whether they could operate around obstacles or in difficult terrain. Requires a legislative report by February 15, 2025.