This Document can be made available
in alternative formats upon request

State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH SESSION

HOUSE FILE NO. 846

February 12, 2007
Authored by Doty, Tschumper, Urdahl, Otremba and Welti
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Rural Economies and Veterans Affairs
February 15, 2007
Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:
To Pass as Amended and re-referred to the Committee on Finance

A bill for an act
relating to agriculture; appropriating money for organic certification cost-share assistance and sustainable agriculture demonstration grants.

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

Section 1. **ORGANIC CERTIFICATION COST-SHARE.**

$275,000 in fiscal year 2008 and $275,000 in fiscal year 2009 are appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of agriculture for annual cost-share payments to resident farmers or persons who sell, process, or package agricultural products in this state for the costs of organic certification. Annual cost-share payments per farmer must be three-fourths of the cost of the certification or $500, whichever is less. In any year that a resident farmer or person who sells, processes, or packages agricultural products in this state receives a federal organic certification cost-share payment, that resident farmer or person is not eligible for state cost-share payments. This appropriation is available until expended. The commissioner may allocate any excess appropriation in either fiscal year for organic producer education efforts, assistance for persons transitioning from conventional to organic agriculture, or sustainable agriculture demonstration grants authorized under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.116, and pertaining to organic research or demonstration.