

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5973

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As of February 20, 2001

**Title:** An act relating to the small farm marketing assistance conference.

**Brief Description:** Convening a small farm marketing assistance conference.

**Sponsors:** Senators Jacobsen and Rasmussen.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Agriculture & International Trade: 2/21/01.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & INTERNATIONAL TRADE

**Staff:** David Johnson (786-7754)

**Background:** Small farms are seen as important contributors to the economy, quality of life, and land stewardship. Small farmers can realize a much greater profit if they are able to sell their products directly.

Small farmers often lack the resources to effectively market their products themselves. Market barriers and a lack of information and ideas related to effective marketing exist for many small farmers. It is felt that small farmers would benefit from a concerted effort to increase their marketing ability.

**Summary of Bill:** The Department of Agriculture convenes a conference to improve domestic and agricultural marketing opportunities for small farms. The purpose of the conference is to provide marketing ideas for small farmers to enhance their economic viability.

The conference is developed in consultation with the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development. Planning also includes interested individuals, related groups, and advisory boards.

**Appropriation:** \$49,000.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.