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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2744

03/08/2016 Authored by McNamara

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to capital investment; appropriating money for the acquisition and
1.3 betterment of public lands for natural resources purposes; authorizing the sale
1.4 and issuance of state bonds.

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

1.6 Section 1. NATURAL RESOURCES; PUBLIC LANDS ACQUISITION AND
1.7 BETTERMENT.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Appropriation. (a) \$29,800,000 is appropriated from the bond
1.9 proceeds fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the purposes provided in
1.10 this subdivision.

1.11 (b) \$6,000,000 of this appropriation is for the reforestation and stand improvement
1.12 on state forest lands to meet the reforestation requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section
1.13 89.002, subdivision 2, including purchasing native seeds and native seedlings, planting,
1.14 seeding, site preparation, and protection on state lands administered by the commissioner;
1.15 and for timber stand improvement.

1.16 (c) \$5,800,000 of this appropriation is for scientific and natural area acquisition
1.17 and development.

1.18 (d) \$8,000,000 of this appropriation is to acquire native prairie bank easements under
1.19 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, and to develop and restore native prairie bank lands.

1.20 (e) \$2,000,000 of this appropriation is to acquire private lands from willing sellers
1.21 within the boundaries of state forests established under Minnesota Statutes, section 89.021.

1.22 (f) \$5,000,000 of this appropriation is to acquire conservation easements as
1.23 described under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 84C, and fee title on private forest lands to

2.1 prevent the fragmentation and loss of productive forest lands. The conservation easements
2.2 must guarantee public access, including hunting and fishing.

2.3 (g) \$3,000,000 of this appropriation is to provide the state match for the reinvest
2.4 in Minnesota critical habitat private sector matching account under Minnesota Statutes,
2.5 section 84.943.

2.6 Subd. 2. **Bond sale.** To provide the money appropriated in this section from the
2.7 bond proceeds fund, the commissioner of management and budget shall sell and issue
2.8 bonds of the state in an amount up to \$29,800,000 in the manner, upon the terms, and with
2.9 the effect prescribed by Minnesota Statutes, sections 16A.631 to 16A.675, and by the
2.10 Minnesota Constitution, article XI, sections 4 to 7.

2.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.