

State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2475

03/08/2016 Authored by Hansen and Wagenius

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 natural resources capital
1.3 projects; authorizing the sale and issuance of state bonds.

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

1.5 Section 1. **NATURAL RESOURCES.**

1.6 Subdivision 1. **Appropriation.** (a) \$72,500,000 is appropriated from the bond
1.7 proceeds fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the purposes specified in
1.8 this section.

1.9 (b) The appropriations in this section are subject to the requirements of the natural
1.10 resources capital improvement program under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.12, unless
1.11 this section or the statutes referred to in this section provide more specific standards,
1.12 criteria, or priorities for projects than Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.12.

1.13 Subd. 2. **Natural resources asset preservation.** \$33,000,000 is for the renovation
1.14 of state-owned facilities and recreational assets operated by the commissioner of
1.15 natural resources to be spent in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 84.946.
1.16 Notwithstanding section 84.946, the commissioner may use this appropriation to
1.17 replace buildings if, considering the embedded energy in the building, that is the most
1.18 energy-efficient and carbon-reducing method of renovation. This appropriation may
1.19 be used for projects to remove life safety hazards, such as building code violations or
1.20 structural defects.

1.21 Subd. 3. **Buildings and facilities development.** \$2,000,000 is to predesign a
1.22 consolidated office in Bemidji, to design and construct office buildings at colocated

2.1 facilities, and to replace buildings that are in poor condition, outdated, and no longer
2.2 support the work of the department.

2.3 Subd. 4. **Flood hazard mitigation.** (a) \$3,500,000 is for the state share of flood
2.4 hazard mitigation grants for publicly owned capital improvements to prevent or alleviate
2.5 flood damage under Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.161.

2.6 (b) Levee projects, to the extent practical, shall meet the state standard of three
2.7 feet above the 100-year flood elevation.

2.8 (c) Project priorities shall be determined by the commissioner as appropriate and
2.9 based on need.

2.10 (d) This appropriation includes money for the following municipal projects:
2.11 Montevideo and Halstad.

2.12 (e) For any project listed in this subdivision that the commissioner determines is not
2.13 ready to proceed or does not expend all the money allocated to it, the commissioner may
2.14 allocate that project's money to a project on the commissioner's priority list.

2.15 (f) To the extent that the cost of a project exceeds two percent of the median
2.16 household income in a municipality multiplied by the number of households in the
2.17 municipality, this appropriation is also for the local share of the project.

2.18 Subd. 5. **Mille Lacs Lake fisheries management station.** \$3,500,000 is to design
2.19 and construct a fishery management station near Mille Lacs Lake to provide office,
2.20 hatchery, and storage space.

2.21 Subd. 6. **Dam renovation, repair, removal.** (a) \$7,000,000 is to renovate or
2.22 remove publicly owned dams. The commissioner shall determine project priorities as
2.23 appropriate under Minnesota Statutes, sections 103G.511 and 103G.515.

2.24 (b) This appropriation includes funding for the Bronson Dam in Lake Bronson
2.25 State Park.

2.26 Subd. 7. **Reforestation and stand improvement.** \$2,000,000 is to provide for
2.27 reforestation and stand improvement on state forest lands to meet the reforestation
2.28 requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 89.002, subdivision 2, including purchasing
2.29 native seeds and native seedlings, planting, seeding, site preparation, and protection on
2.30 state lands administered by the commissioner.

2.31 Subd. 8. **Native prairie bank acquisition and development.** \$2,000,000 is to
2.32 acquire native prairie bank easements under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, and to
2.33 develop and restore prairie bank lands.

3.1 Subd. 9. **Itasca State Park renovations.** \$3,000,000 is to provide for the renovation
3.2 of buildings and infrastructure and for natural resources restoration in Itasca State Park.

3.3 Subd. 10. **WMA/AMA acquisition and development - Pheasant Plan.** \$9,500,000
3.4 is to acquire WMAs and AMAs and for improvements to develop, protect, or improve
3.5 habitat under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivisions 8 and 14.

3.6 Subd. 11. **State park campground renovations.** \$1,000,000 is to rehabilitate
3.7 and provide enhancements to campgrounds, including meeting code requirements and
3.8 improving accessibility. This appropriation is for the Jay Cooke campground and
3.9 additional campgrounds if possible.

3.10 Subd. 12. **Park, state recreation area, and trail development.** \$2,000,000 is
3.11 for acquisition and development of recreational features in state parks, state recreation
3.12 areas, and state trails.

3.13 Subd. 13. **Fish hatchery development.** \$1,000,000 is for improvements to hatchery
3.14 facilities operated by the commissioner under Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.045,
3.15 subdivision 1, and to provide system upgrades to prevent the spread of invasive species
3.16 and pathogens.

3.17 Subd. 14. **Scientific and natural area acquisition and development.** \$1,000,000
3.18 is to acquire land for scientific and natural areas and for improvements to develop, protect,
3.19 or improve scientific and natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, sections 84.033 and
3.20 86A.05, subdivision 5.

3.21 Subd. 15. **RIM critical habitat match program.** \$2,000,000 is to provide the state
3.22 match for the critical habitat private sector matching account under Minnesota Statutes,
3.23 section 84.943.

3.24 Subd. 16. **Unspent appropriations.** The unspent portion of an appropriation for
3.25 a project in this section that is complete, upon written notice to the commissioner of
3.26 management and budget, is available for asset preservation under Minnesota Statutes,
3.27 section 84.946. Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.642, applies from the date of the original
3.28 appropriation to the unspent amount transferred.

3.29 Subd. 17. **Bond sale.** To provide the money appropriated in this section from
3.30 the bond proceeds fund, the commissioner of management and budget shall sell and
3.31 issue bonds of the state in an amount up to \$72,500,000 in the manner, upon the terms,

- 4.1 and with the effect prescribed by Minnesota Statutes, sections 16A.631 to 16A.675, and
- 4.2 by the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, sections 4 to 7.
- 4.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.