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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2951

03/10/2016 Authored by Gruenhagen and Urdahl

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 environment; requiring legislative approval of certain water quality
1.3 standards and rules; suspending certain water quality standards and rules;
1.4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 115.03, by adding a subdivision.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 115.03, is amended by adding a
1.7 subdivision to read:

1.8 Subd. 12. Legislative approval. (a) The commissioner of the Pollution Control
1.9 Agency must submit a water quality standard or other water quality rule change developed
1.10 under this chapter or chapter 116 to the legislature for approval if the standard or rule
1.11 change is estimated to have a financial impact to:

1.12 (1) affected permittees of \$50,000,000 or more, in total, within the first five years of
1.13 implementation; or

1.14 (2) a single affected permittee of \$5,000,000 or more within the first five years
1.15 of implementation.

1.16 (b) The standard or rule change submitted under paragraph (a) must be approved
1.17 by the legislature prior to implementation.

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

1.19 Sec. 2. SUSPENSION OF WATER QUALITY RULES.

1.20 Until the cost analysis of water quality standards is submitted to the legislature
1.21 as required under Laws 2015, First Special Session chapter 4, article 4, section 135,
1.22 any water quality standard or other water quality rule change adopted on July 2, 2014,
1.23 requiring a local unit of government to upgrade or update its wastewater treatment facility

- 2.1 or to construct a new wastewater treatment facility is suspended and the rules as they were
- 2.2 prior to adoption of any amendments remain in effect.
- 2.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.