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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETIETH SESSION

H. F. No. 4269

03/28/2018 Authored by Torkelson
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Finance
03/29/2018 Adoption of Report: Re-referred to the Committee on Legacy Funding Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to clean water; appropriating money from the clean water fund.

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

1.4 Section 1. CLEAN WATER FUND APPROPRIATIONS.

1.5 Subdivision 1. Pollution Control Agency. \$10,000 in fiscal year 2019 is appropriated
1.6 from the clean water fund to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency to support
1.7 activities of the Clean Water Council according to Minnesota Statutes, section 114D.30,
1.8 subdivision 1. This is a onetime appropriation.

1.9 Subd. 2. Department of Natural Resources. \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 is
1.10 appropriated from the clean water fund to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire
1.11 permanent conservation easements in targeted areas to protect the forests and shorelands
1.12 that supply clean water to lakes, rivers, and streams under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.66.
1.13 This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2022.

1.14 Subd. 3. Board of Water and Soil Resources. (a) \$4,412,000 in fiscal year 2019 is
1.15 appropriated from the clean water fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a pilot
1.16 program to provide performance-based grants to local government units. The grants may
1.17 be used to implement projects that protect, enhance, and restore surface water quality in
1.18 lakes, rivers, and streams; protect groundwater from degradation; and protect sources of
1.19 drinking water. Projects must be identified in a comprehensive watershed plan developed
1.20 under the One Watershed, One Plan or metropolitan surface water management frameworks
1.21 or groundwater plans. Grant recipients must identify a nonstate match and may use other
1.22 legacy funds to supplement projects funded under this paragraph.

2.1 (b) \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 is appropriated from the clean water fund to the Board  
2.2 of Water and Soil Resources for grants to protect and restore surface water and drinking  
2.3 water; to keep water on the land; to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes,  
2.4 rivers, and streams; and to protect groundwater and drinking water, including feedlot water  
2.5 quality and subsurface sewage treatment system projects and stabilization projects for stream  
2.6 banks, stream channels, shoreline restorations, and ravines. The projects must use practices  
2.7 demonstrated to be effective; be of long-lasting public benefit; include a match; and be  
2.8 consistent with total maximum daily load (TMDL) implementation plans, watershed  
2.9 restoration and protection strategies (WRAPS), or local water management plans or their  
2.10 equivalents. A portion of these funds may be used to seek administrative efficiencies through  
2.11 shared resources by multiple local governmental units.

2.12 (c) \$15,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 is appropriated from the clean water fund to the  
2.13 Board of Water and Soil Resources to purchase and restore permanent conservation sites  
2.14 via easements or contracts to treat and store water on the land for water quality improvement  
2.15 purposes and related technical assistance. This work may be done in cooperation with the  
2.16 United States Department of Agriculture with a first priority use to accomplish a conservation  
2.17 reserve enhancement program, or equivalent, in the state. Up to \$..... is for deposit in a  
2.18 monitoring and enforcement account.

2.19 (d) The board may shift grant or cost-share funds in this subdivision and may adjust the  
2.20 technical and administrative assistance portion of the funds to leverage federal or other  
2.21 nonstate funds or to address oversight responsibilities or high-priority needs identified in  
2.22 local water management plans.

2.23 (e) The board must require grantees to specify the outcomes that will be achieved by  
2.24 the grants before any grant awards.

2.25 (f) The appropriations in this subdivision are onetime and available until June 30, 2022.  
2.26 Returned grant funds must be regranted consistent with the purposes of this subdivision.

2.27 Subd. 4. **University of Minnesota.** \$343,000 in fiscal year 2019 is appropriated from  
2.28 the clean water fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to provide  
2.29 guidance documents and tools evaluating the clean water fund's return on investment to  
2.30 measure impacts on water quality and human well-being as well as assist in future funding  
2.31 decisions. This is a onetime appropriation.