A bill for an act
relating to state government; creating a sustainable growth working group; appropriating money.

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

Section 1. **SUSTAINABLE GROWTH WORKING GROUP.**

Subdivision 1. **Creation.** The sustainable growth working group consists of the following members:

(1) two senators, including one member of the minority caucus, appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration;

(2) two members of the house of representatives, one appointed by the speaker and one appointed by the minority leader;

(3) commissioners of the following agencies, or their designees: Department of Natural Resources, Department of Administration, Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce, Department of Transportation, Department of Employment and Economic Development, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency; and the chair of the Metropolitan Council or the chair's designee;

(4) up to 12 public members who have an interest in promoting sustainable communities in Minnesota, jointly appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and the majority leader of the senate, and including at least one representative of the business, environmental, energy, affordable housing, transportation, local government, planning, and philanthropic sectors.

The membership of the working group must include balanced representation from rural, urban, and suburban areas of the state.

Subd. 2. **Duties.** The working group must identify strategies, recommendations, and a process for implementing state-level coordination of state and local policies, programs, and regulations in the areas of housing, transportation, natural resource preservation, capital development, economic development, sustainability, and preservation of the environment. The working group must identify sustainable development principles that will address metro growth concerns to guide decision making in Minnesota. The working group must gather information and develop strategies relative to the strategic use of state resources, to be consistent with statewide goals of sustainable development. The working group must report proposed strategies, recommendations, and a process for implementation to the legislature and the governor by February 1, 2008. In its report to the legislature and the governor, the working group must identify its source of funding.

Subd. 3. **Administrative provisions.** (a) The commissioner of administration must convene the initial meeting. Upon request of the working group, the commissioner must provide meeting space and administrative services for the group. The Office of Geographic and Demographic Analysis must provide staff support for the working group. The members of the working group must elect a chair.

(b) Members of the working group serve without compensation.

(c) The working group expires June 30, 2008.

(d) The working group may accept gifts and grants, which are accepted on behalf of the state and constitute donations to the state. Funds received are appropriated to the commissioner of administration for purposes of the working group.

Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

$100,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of administration for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, for purposes of the working group. This appropriation is contingent on a dollar-for-dollar match from nonstate sources.