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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2048

03/19/2015 Authored by Mullery

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Job Growth and Energy Affordability Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to economic development; creating a grant program for businesses
1.3 affected by the closure of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock; appropriating money.

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

1.5 Section 1. UPPER ST. ANTHONY FALLS LOCK CLOSURE GRANTS.

1.6 (a) \$20,000,000 in fiscal year 2016 is appropriated from the general fund to the
1.7 commissioner of employment and economic development for the St. Paul Port Authority
1.8 for grants to provide economic assistance to businesses adversely affected by the closure
1.9 of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock. This is a onetime appropriation and is available
1.10 until June 30, 2035.

1.11 (b) The St. Paul Port Authority shall:

1.12 (1) accept grant applications from businesses eligible for assistance under paragraph

1.13 (c). Grant applications must be submitted on a form specified by the port authority;

1.14 (2) review grant applications in the order in which they are received; and

1.15 (3) award grants to eligible applicants as provided for under paragraph (e), within
1.16 the limits of available appropriations. The maximum total grant award to any grantee shall
1.17 not exceed \$10,000,000.

1.18 (c) To be eligible for a grant under this section, a business must:

1.19 (1) be located upriver of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock;

1.20 (2) as of the effective date of this section, operate a commercial navigation facility
1.21 as defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 457A.01; and

1.22 (3) as of the effective date of this section, be actively engaged in the use of
1.23 commercial vessels on the commercially navigable waters of the Mississippi River to

2.1 expedite the movement of commodities or materials. For the purposes of this section,
2.2 "commercial vessel" has the meaning given in section 457A.01.

2.3 (d) Funds awarded under this subdivision may be used for:

2.4 (1) relocation costs, including the costs of acquiring or leasing property or capital
2.5 equipment; and

2.6 (2) costs related to the demolition, dismantling, or transportation of property or
2.7 capital equipment.

2.8 (e) The St. Paul Port Authority may only disburse funds pursuant to a written
2.9 agreement to be entered into between the St. Paul Port Authority and the grantee.

2.10 (f) Of the amount appropriated under this section, up to \$..... may be used by the
2.11 commissioner and the St. Paul Port Authority for administrative costs.