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State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETIETH SESSION

H. F. No. 2936

02/22/2018 Authored by Erickson, Loon, Poston, Kiel, Jessup and others  
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Finance  
03/08/2018 By motion, recalled and re-referred to the Committee on Education Innovation Policy

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to education policy; transferring administration of school trust lands;  
1.3 establishing the school trust management account; authorizing rulemaking; requiring  
1.4 a report; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016, sections 16A.125, subdivision 5;  
1.5 84.027, subdivision 18; 84.085, subdivision 1; 89.001, subdivisions 6, 13; 92.01;  
1.6 92.02; 92.12, subdivision 1; 92.121; 92.13; 93.0015, subdivisions 1, 2; 93.05,  
1.7 subdivision 3; 93.055; 93.22; 93.2236; 94.16, subdivision 3; 127A.30, subdivision  
1.8 1; 127A.351; 127A.352; 127A.353, subdivision 4; proposing coding for new law  
1.9 in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 127A; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2016, section  
1.10 92.83.

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

1.12 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 16A.125, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

1.13 Subd. 5. **Forest trust lands.** (a) ~~The term~~ "State forest trust fund lands" as used in this  
1.14 subdivision, means public land in trust under the Minnesota Constitution set apart as "forest  
1.15 lands under the authority of the commissioner" of natural resources as defined by section  
1.16 89.001, subdivision 13, but excludes school trust lands as defined in section 92.025.

1.17 (b) The commissioner of management and budget ~~shall~~ must credit the revenue from  
1.18 the state forest trust fund lands to the forest suspense account. The account must specify  
1.19 the trust funds interested in the lands and the respective receipts of the lands.

1.20 (c) After a fiscal year, the commissioner of management and budget ~~shall~~ must certify  
1.21 the costs incurred for forestry during that year under appropriations for the improvement,  
1.22 administration, and management of state forest trust fund lands and construction and  
1.23 improvement of forest roads to enhance the forest value of the lands. The certificate must  
1.24 specify the trust funds interested in the lands. ~~After presentation to the Legislative Permanent~~  
1.25 ~~School Fund Commission,~~ The commissioner of natural resources ~~shall~~ must supply the

2.1 commissioner of management and budget with the information needed for the certificate.  
 2.2 The certificate ~~shall~~ must include an analysis that compares costs certified under this section  
 2.3 with costs incurred on other public and private lands with similar land assets.

2.4 (d) After a fiscal year, the commissioner ~~shall~~ must distribute the receipts credited to  
 2.5 the suspense account during that fiscal year as follows:

2.6 (1) the amount of the certified costs incurred by the state for forest management, forest  
 2.7 improvement, and road improvement during the fiscal year ~~shall~~ must be transferred to the  
 2.8 forest management investment account established under section 89.039;

2.9 ~~(2) the amount of costs incurred by the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission~~  
 2.10 ~~under section 127A.30, and by the school trust lands director under section 127A.353, shall~~  
 2.11 ~~be transferred to the general fund;~~

2.12 ~~(3) (2)~~ the balance of the certified costs incurred by the state during the fiscal year ~~shall~~  
 2.13 must be transferred to the general fund; and

2.14 ~~(4) (3)~~ the balance of the receipts ~~shall~~ must then be returned prorated to the trust funds  
 2.15 in proportion to their respective interests in the lands ~~which~~ that produced the receipts.

2.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

2.17 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 84.027, subdivision 18, is amended to read:

2.18 Subd. 18. **Permanent school fund authority; reporting School trust lands.** ~~(a) The~~  
 2.19 ~~commissioner of natural resources has the authority and responsibility for the administration~~  
 2.20 ~~of school trust lands under sections 92.121 and 127A.31. The commissioner shall biannually~~  
 2.21 ~~report to the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission and the legislature on the~~  
 2.22 ~~management of the school trust lands that shows how the commissioner has and will continue~~  
 2.23 ~~to achieve the following goals:~~

2.24 ~~(1) manage the school trust lands efficiently and in a manner that reflects the undivided~~  
 2.25 ~~loyalty to the beneficiaries consistent with the commissioner's fiduciary duties;~~

2.26 ~~(2) reduce the management expenditures of school trust lands and maximize the revenues~~  
 2.27 ~~deposited in the permanent school trust fund;~~

2.28 ~~(3) manage the sale, exchange, and commercial leasing of school trust lands, requiring~~  
 2.29 ~~returns of not less than fair market value, to maximize the revenues deposited in the~~  
 2.30 ~~permanent school trust fund and retain the value from the long-term appreciation of the~~  
 2.31 ~~school trust lands;~~

3.1 ~~(4) manage the school trust lands to maximize the long-term economic return for the~~  
 3.2 ~~permanent school trust fund while maintaining sound natural resource conservation and~~  
 3.3 ~~management principles;~~

3.4 ~~(5) optimize school trust land revenues and maximize the value of the trust consistent~~  
 3.5 ~~with the balancing of short-term and long-term interests, so that long-term benefits are not~~  
 3.6 ~~lost in an effort to maximize short-term gains; and~~

3.7 ~~(6) maintain the integrity of the trust and prevent the misapplication of its lands and its~~  
 3.8 ~~revenues.~~

3.9 ~~(b) When the commissioner finds an irresolvable conflict between maximizing the~~  
 3.10 ~~long-term economic return and protecting natural resources and recreational values on~~  
 3.11 ~~school trust lands, the commissioner shall give precedence to the long-term economic return~~  
 3.12 ~~in managing school trust lands. (a) By July 1, 2018, the permanent school fund shall must~~  
 3.13 ~~be compensated for all school trust lands included under a designation or policy provision~~  
 3.14 ~~that prohibits long-term economic return. The commissioner shall of natural resources must~~  
 3.15 ~~submit recommendations to the appropriate legislative committees and divisions on methods~~  
 3.16 ~~of funding for the compensation required under this paragraph, including recommendations~~  
 3.17 ~~for appropriations from the general fund, nongeneral funds, and the state bond fund. Any~~  
 3.18 ~~uncompensated designation or policy provision restrictions on the long-term economic~~  
 3.19 ~~return on school trust lands remaining after July 1, 2018, shall must be compiled and~~  
 3.20 ~~submitted to the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission for review.~~

3.21 ~~(c) By December 31, 2013, the report required under paragraph (a) shall provide an~~  
 3.22 ~~inventory and identification of all school trust lands that are included under a designation~~  
 3.23 ~~or policy provision that prohibits long-term economic return. The report shall include a plan~~  
 3.24 ~~to compensate the permanent school fund through the purchase or exchange of the lands or~~  
 3.25 ~~a plan to manage the school trust land to generate long-term economic return to the permanent~~  
 3.26 ~~school fund. Subsequent reports under paragraph (a) shall include a status report of the~~  
 3.27 ~~commissioner's progress in maximizing the long-term economic return on lands identified~~  
 3.28 ~~in the 2013 report.~~

3.29 ~~(d) (b)~~ When future designations or policies by the commissioner prohibit the long-term  
 3.30 economic return on school trust land, the conflict shall must be resolved by compensating  
 3.31 the permanent school fund through an exchange or purchase of the lands before designation  
 3.32 or application of the policy.

3.33 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

4.1 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 84.085, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

4.2 Subdivision 1. **Authority.** (a) The commissioner of natural resources may accept for  
 4.3 and on behalf of the state any gift, bequest, devise, or grants of lands or interest in lands or  
 4.4 personal property of any kind or of money tendered to the state for any purpose pertaining  
 4.5 to the activities of the department or any of its divisions. Any money so received is ~~hereby~~  
 4.6 appropriated and dedicated for the purpose for which it is granted. Lands and interests in  
 4.7 lands so received may be sold or exchanged as provided in chapter 94. The deed conveying  
 4.8 land or an interest in land to the state under this paragraph must clearly indicate whether  
 4.9 the state may resell the donated land or interest in land.

4.10 (b) When the commissioner of natural resources accepts lands or interests in land, the  
 4.11 commissioner may reimburse the donor for costs incurred to obtain an appraisal needed for  
 4.12 tax reporting purposes. If the state pays the donor for a portion of the value of the lands or  
 4.13 interests in lands that are donated, the reimbursement for appraisal costs ~~shall~~ must not  
 4.14 exceed \$1,500. If the donor receives no payment from the state for the lands or interests in  
 4.15 lands that are donated, the reimbursement for appraisal costs ~~shall~~ must not exceed \$5,000.

4.16 (c) The commissioner of natural resources, on behalf of the state, may accept and use  
 4.17 grants of money or property from the United States or other grantors for conservation  
 4.18 purposes not inconsistent with the laws of this state. Any money or property so received is  
 4.19 ~~hereby~~ appropriated and dedicated for the purposes for which it is granted; and ~~shall~~ must  
 4.20 be expended or used solely for such purposes in accordance with the federal laws and  
 4.21 regulations pertaining thereto, subject to applicable state laws and rules as to manner of  
 4.22 expenditure or use providing that the commissioner may make subgrants of any money  
 4.23 received to other agencies, units of local government, private individuals, private  
 4.24 organizations, and private nonprofit corporations. Appropriate funds and accounts ~~shall~~  
 4.25 must be maintained by the commissioner of management and budget to secure compliance  
 4.26 with this section.

4.27 ~~(d) The commissioner may accept for and on behalf of the permanent school fund a~~  
 4.28 ~~donation of lands, interest in lands, or improvements on lands. A donation so received shall~~  
 4.29 ~~become state property, be classified as school trust land as defined in section 92.025, and~~  
 4.30 ~~be managed consistent with section 127A.31. When the commissioner proposes to accept~~  
 4.31 ~~a donation of land or an interest in land, the commissioner must notify the landowner of the~~  
 4.32 ~~option to express in the deed whether the state may resell the land.~~

4.33 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

5.1 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 89.001, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

5.2 Subd. 6. **State forest lands.** "State forest lands" means all land and waters owned by  
 5.3 the state within state forests, ~~including all lands set apart under the Constitution of the state~~  
 5.4 ~~of Minnesota, article XI, section 11, and laws enacted pursuant thereto~~, but excepting school  
 5.5 trust lands as defined in section 92.025, lands acquired by the state for other specific purposes  
 5.6 ~~or~~, and tax-forfeited lands held in trust for the taxing districts unless incorporated into state  
 5.7 forests as otherwise provided by law.

5.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

5.9 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 89.001, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

5.10 Subd. 13. **Forest lands under the authority of the commissioner.** "Forest lands under  
 5.11 the authority of the commissioner" means state forest lands and other forest lands managed  
 5.12 by the commissioner outside of state forests, except for school trust lands as defined in  
 5.13 section 92.025, tax-forfeited lands held in trust for the taxing districts, and ~~for~~ the following  
 5.14 units of the outdoor recreation system as defined in section 86A.04: state parks, state trails,  
 5.15 state wildlife management areas, state scientific and natural areas, state water-access sites,  
 5.16 state historic sites, state rest areas, and state wilderness areas.

5.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

5.18 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 92.01, is amended to read:

5.19 **92.01 STATE PUBLIC LANDS OR STATE LANDS.**

5.20 "State public lands" or "state lands" means ~~school, swamp, university, internal~~  
 5.21 ~~improvement, and other lands granted to the state by acts of Congress~~ state-owned lands  
 5.22 acquired by purchase, gift, bequest, or eminent domain, but does not include school trust  
 5.23 lands as defined under section 92.025.

5.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

5.25 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 92.02, is amended to read:

5.26 **92.02 AUTHORITY.**

5.27 Sales of state lands under this chapter must be conducted by the commissioner, a deputy  
 5.28 of the commissioner, or a competent person employed by the commissioner.

5.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

6.1 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 92.12, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

6.2 Subdivision 1. **Appraisers.** The commissioner may have any ~~school trust or other~~ state  
6.3 lands appraised. The appraisals must be made by regularly appointed and qualified state  
6.4 appraisers. To be qualified, an appraiser must hold a state appraiser license issued by the  
6.5 Department of Commerce. The appraisal must be in conformity with the Uniform Standards  
6.6 of Professional Appraisal Practice of the Appraisal Foundation.

6.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

6.8 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 92.121, is amended to read:

6.9 **92.121 PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND LANDS.**

6.10 The commissioner of natural resources ~~shall~~ and the school trust lands director must  
6.11 exchange permanent school fund land as defined in the Minnesota Constitution, article XI,  
6.12 section 8, located in state parks, state recreation areas, wildlife management areas, scientific  
6.13 and natural areas, or state waysides or on lands managed ~~by the commissioner~~ as old growth  
6.14 stands, for other lands as allowed by the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 10, and  
6.15 section 94.343, subdivision 1, that are compatible with the goal of the permanent school  
6.16 fund lands in ~~section~~ sections 127A.31 and 127A.353, subdivision 4, paragraph (a), clause  
6.17 6, when, as a result of management practices applied to the permanent school fund lands  
6.18 and associated resources, revenue generation has been diminished or is prohibited and no  
6.19 alternative has been put into effect to compensate the permanent school fund for the income  
6.20 losses.

6.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

6.22 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 92.13, is amended to read:

6.23 **92.13 PUBLIC SALE OF STATE LANDS, ~~DATE OF SALE.~~**

6.24 The commissioner ~~shall~~ must hold public sales of ~~school and other~~ state lands when it  
6.25 is advantageous to the state and to intending buyers and settlers.

6.26 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

6.27 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 93.0015, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

6.28 Subdivision 1. **Establishment; membership.** The Mineral Coordinating Committee is  
6.29 established to plan for diversified mineral development. The Mineral Coordinating Committee  
6.30 consists of:

- 7.1 (1) the commissioner of natural resources;
- 7.2 (2) the commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency;
- 7.3 (3) the commissioner of Iron Range resources and rehabilitation;
- 7.4 (4) the director of the Minnesota Geological Survey;
- 7.5 (5) the dean of the University of Minnesota Institute of Technology;
- 7.6 (6) the director of the Natural Resources Research Institute; ~~and~~
- 7.7 (7) the school trust lands director; and
- 7.8 ~~(7)~~ (8) four individuals appointed by the governor for a four-year term, one each
- 7.9 representing the iron ore and taconite, nonferrous metallic minerals, and industrial minerals
- 7.10 industries ~~within~~ in the state and one representing labor.

7.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

7.12 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 93.0015, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

7.13 Subd. 2. **Staffing.** The commissioner of ~~natural resources shall serve~~ Iron Range resources

7.14 and rehabilitation serves as chair of the committee. A member of the committee may

7.15 designate another person of the member's organization to act in the member's place. The

7.16 commissioner ~~shall~~ of Iron Range resources and rehabilitation must provide staff and

7.17 administrative services necessary for the committee's activities.

7.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

7.19 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 93.05, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

7.20 Subd. 3. **Attorney general to institute condemnation.** (a) Upon written request of the

7.21 holder of any mineral lease from the state, not in default, with the approval of the

7.22 commissioner of natural resources or, for school trust lands, the school trust lands director,

7.23 the attorney general ~~shall~~ must institute, in the name of the state, proceedings to acquire by

7.24 condemnation any lands, rights-of-way, drainage or flowage rights, easements or other

7.25 interests necessary in connection with prospecting for or mining the ore covered by the

7.26 lease. All costs and expenses of the proceedings and all damages awarded therein ~~shall~~ must

7.27 be paid by the holder of the lease.

7.28 (b) In any eminent domain proceedings under this section, any value ~~which~~ that the land

7.29 taken may have by reason of its location or availability for the depositing of stripping,

7.30 tailings or other wastes from general mining operations in its vicinity, or for the erection of

8.1 buildings or structures thereon in connection with such operations, ~~shall~~ must be considered  
 8.2 in determining the damages to be awarded the owner of the land.

8.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

8.4 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 93.055, is amended to read:

8.5 **93.055 ACTION TO QUIET TITLE TO LANDS COVERED BY MINERAL**  
 8.6 **LEASE.**

8.7 Upon written request of the holder of any mineral lease from the state, not in default,  
 8.8 with the approval of the commissioner of natural resources or, for school trust lands, the  
 8.9 school trust lands director, the attorney general may institute proceedings to quiet the title  
 8.10 and determine adverse claims or to register the title of the state to the lands or interests  
 8.11 covered by the lease. All costs and expenses of the proceedings including compensation of  
 8.12 attorneys for the state ~~shall~~ must be paid by the holder of the lease.

8.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

8.14 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 93.22, is amended to read:

8.15 **93.22 DISPOSITION OF PAYMENTS.**

8.16 Subdivision 1. **Generally.** (a) All payments under sections 93.14 to 93.285 ~~shall~~ for  
 8.17 state lands as defined under section 92.01 must be made to the Department of Natural  
 8.18 Resources and ~~shall~~ must be credited according to ~~this section~~ paragraphs (b) and (c).

8.19 (b) Twenty percent of all payments under sections 93.14 to 93.285 ~~shall~~ must be credited  
 8.20 to the minerals management account in the natural resources fund as costs for the  
 8.21 administration and management of state mineral resources by the commissioner of natural  
 8.22 resources.

8.23 (c) The remainder of the payments ~~shall~~ must be credited as follows:

8.24 (1) if the lands or minerals and mineral rights covered by a lease are held by the state  
 8.25 by virtue of an act of Congress, payments made under the lease ~~shall~~ must be credited to  
 8.26 the permanent fund of the class of land to which the leased premises belong;

8.27 (2) if a lease covers the bed of navigable waters, payments made under the lease ~~shall~~  
 8.28 must be credited to the permanent school fund of the state;

8.29 (3) if the lands or minerals and mineral rights covered by a lease are held by the state  
 8.30 in trust for the taxing districts, payments made under the lease ~~shall~~ must be distributed  
 8.31 annually on the first day of September to the respective counties in which the lands lie, to

9.1 be apportioned among the taxing districts interested therein as follows: county, three-ninths;  
 9.2 town or city, two-ninths; and school district, four-ninths;

9.3 (4) if the lands or mineral rights covered by a lease became the absolute property of the  
 9.4 state under ~~the provisions of~~ chapter 84A, payments made under the lease ~~shall~~ must be  
 9.5 distributed as follows: county containing the land from which the income was derived,  
 9.6 five-eighths; and general fund of the state, three-eighths; and

9.7 (5) except as provided under this section and except where the disposition of payments  
 9.8 may be otherwise directed by law, payments made under a lease ~~shall~~ must be paid into the  
 9.9 general fund of the state.

9.10 (d) All payments under sections 93.14 to 93.285 for school trust lands as defined under  
 9.11 section 92.025 must be made to the school trust lands director and credited to the school  
 9.12 trust management account in the special revenue fund.

9.13 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 93.2236, is amended to read:

9.14 **93.2236 MINERALS MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.**

9.15 (a) The minerals management account is created as an account in the natural resources  
 9.16 fund. Interest earned on money in the account accrues to the account. Money in the account  
 9.17 may be spent or distributed only as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c).

9.18 (b) If the balance in the minerals management account exceeds ~~\$3,000,000~~ \$1,500,000  
 9.19 on March 31, June 30, September 30, or December 31, the amount exceeding ~~\$3,000,000~~  
 9.20 \$1,500,000 must be distributed to ~~the permanent school fund;~~ the permanent university  
 9.21 fund; and taxing districts as provided in section 93.22, subdivision 1, paragraph (c). The  
 9.22 amount distributed to each fund must be in the same proportion as the total mineral lease  
 9.23 revenue received in the previous biennium from ~~school trust lands;~~ university lands; and  
 9.24 lands held by the state in trust for taxing districts.

9.25 (c) Subject to appropriation by the legislature, money in the minerals management  
 9.26 account may be spent by the commissioner of natural resources for mineral resource  
 9.27 management and projects to enhance future mineral income and promote new mineral  
 9.28 resource opportunities.

9.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2018.

10.1 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 94.16, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

10.2 Subd. 3. **Proceeds from natural resources land.** (a) Except as provided in paragraphs  
10.3 (b) and (c), the remainder of the proceeds from the sale of lands classified as a unit of the  
10.4 outdoor recreation system under section 86A.05 that were under the control and supervision  
10.5 of the commissioner of natural resources ~~shall~~ must be credited to the land acquisition  
10.6 account in the natural resources fund.

10.7 (b) The remainder of the proceeds from the sale of administrative sites under the control  
10.8 and supervision of the commissioner of natural resources ~~shall~~ must be credited to the  
10.9 facilities management account established under section 84.0857 and used to acquire facilities  
10.10 or renovate existing buildings for administrative use or to acquire land for, design, and  
10.11 construct administrative buildings for the Department of Natural Resources.

10.12 (c) The remainder of the proceeds from the sale of land not within a unit of the outdoor  
10.13 recreation system under section 86A.05 and not an administrative site, but under the control  
10.14 and supervision of the commissioner of natural resources, ~~shall~~ must be credited to the  
10.15 school trust lands management account established under section ~~92.83~~ 127A.354.

10.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

10.17 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 127A.30, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

10.18 Subdivision 1. **Commission established; membership.** (a) The Legislative Permanent  
10.19 School Fund Commission of 12 members is established to advise ~~the Department of Natural~~  
10.20 ~~Resources~~ and the school trust lands director on the management of permanent school fund  
10.21 land, which is held in trust for the school districts of the state and to review legislation  
10.22 affecting permanent school fund land. The commission consists of the following persons:

10.23 (1) six members of the senate, including three majority party members appointed by the  
10.24 majority leader and three minority party members appointed by the minority leader; and

10.25 (2) six members of the house of representatives, including three majority party members  
10.26 appointed by the speaker of the house and three minority party members appointed by the  
10.27 minority leader.

10.28 (b) Appointed legislative members serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority and  
10.29 continue to serve until their successors are appointed.

10.30 (c) ~~The first meeting of the commission shall be convened by the chair of the Legislative~~  
10.31 ~~Coordinating Commission.~~ Members ~~shall~~ must elect a chair, vice-chair, secretary, and  
10.32 other officers as determined by the commission. The chair ~~may~~ or vice-chair must convene

11.1 ~~meetings as necessary~~ a meeting at least quarterly to conduct the duties prescribed by this  
11.2 section.

11.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2018.

11.4 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 127A.351, is amended to read:

11.5 **127A.351 POLICY AND PURPOSE.**

11.6 (a) The purpose of sections 127A.351 to 127A.353 is to establish a school trust lands  
11.7 director position to recommend and implement management policies for Minnesota's school  
11.8 trust lands ~~in accordance with the provisions of~~ according to the Minnesota Constitution,  
11.9 article XI, section 8.

11.10 (b) As trustee, the state must manage the lands and revenues generated from the lands  
11.11 consistent with the best interests of the trust beneficiaries as defined in the Minnesota  
11.12 Constitution, article XI, section 8. When it is in the best interest of the school trust lands,  
11.13 ecological benefits ~~shall~~ must be taken into consideration.

11.14 (c) The trustee must be concerned with both income for the current beneficiaries and  
11.15 the preservation of trust assets for future beneficiaries, which requires a balancing of  
11.16 short-term and long-term interests so that long-term benefits are not lost in an effort to  
11.17 maximize short-term gains.

11.18 (d) Sections 127A.351 to 127A.353 ~~shall~~ must be liberally construed to enable the school  
11.19 trust lands director ~~and the commissioner of natural resources~~ to faithfully fulfill the state's  
11.20 obligations to the trust beneficiaries.

11.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

11.22 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 127A.352, is amended to read:

11.23 **127A.352 POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS; DUTIES.**

11.24 Subdivision 1. **Recommendations.** The Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission  
11.25 ~~shall~~ must recommend policies for the school trust lands director ~~and the commissioner of~~  
11.26 ~~natural resources~~ that are consistent with the Minnesota Constitution, and state law, ~~and the~~  
11.27 ~~goals established under section 84.027, subdivision 18.~~

11.28 Subd. 2. **Duties.** ~~The commissioner of natural resources and the school trust lands director~~  
11.29 ~~shall~~ must recommend to the governor and the Legislative Permanent School Fund  
11.30 Commission any necessary or desirable changes in statutes relating to the trust or ~~their~~ the  
11.31 director's trust responsibilities consistent with the policies under section 127A.351.

12.1 ~~Subd. 3. **Notice to commission and governor.** If the school trust lands director has an~~  
 12.2 ~~irreconcilable disagreement with the commissioner of natural resources pertaining to the~~  
 12.3 ~~fiduciary responsibilities consistent with the school trust lands, it is the duty of the director~~  
 12.4 ~~to report the subject of the disagreement to the Legislative Permanent School Fund~~  
 12.5 ~~Commission and the governor.~~

12.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

12.7 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 127A.353, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

12.8 Subd. 4. **Duties; powers.** (a) The school trust lands director ~~shall~~ must:

12.9 (1) take an oath of office before assuming any duties as the director;

12.10 (2) evaluate the school trust land asset position;

12.11 (3) determine the estimated current and potential market value of school trust lands;

12.12 (4) advise the governor, Executive Council, ~~commissioner of natural resources,~~ and the  
 12.13 Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission on the management of school trust lands;  
 12.14 ~~including:~~

12.15 ~~(i) Department of Natural Resources school trust land management plans;~~

12.16 ~~(ii) leases of school trust lands;~~

12.17 ~~(iii) royalty agreements on school trust lands;~~

12.18 ~~(iv) land sales and exchanges;~~

12.19 ~~(v) cost certification; and~~

12.20 ~~(vi) revenue generating options;~~

12.21 (5) propose to the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission legislative changes  
 12.22 that will improve the asset allocation of the school trust lands;

12.23 (6) develop a ten-year strategic plan and a 25-year framework for management of school  
 12.24 trust lands, ~~in conjunction with the commissioner of natural resources,~~ that is updated every  
 12.25 five years and implemented by the ~~commissioner~~ director, with goals to:

12.26 (i) retain core real estate assets;

12.27 (ii) increase the value of the real estate assets and the cash flow from those assets;

12.28 (iii) rebalance the portfolio in assets with high performance potential and the strategic  
 12.29 disposal of selected assets;

- 13.1 (iv) establish priorities for management actions; and
- 13.2 (v) balance revenue enhancement and resource stewardship;
- 13.3 (7) submit to the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission for review an annual
- 13.4 budget and management plan for the director; and
- 13.5 (8) keep the beneficiaries, governor, legislature, and the public informed about the work
- 13.6 of the director by reporting to the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission in a
- 13.7 public meeting at least once during each calendar quarter.
- 13.8 (b) In carrying out the duties under paragraph (a), the school trust lands director ~~shall~~
- 13.9 ~~have the authority to~~ may:
- 13.10 (1) direct and control money appropriated to the director;
- 13.11 (2) establish job descriptions and employ up to five employees in the unclassified service,
- 13.12 within the limitations of money appropriated to the director;
- 13.13 (3) enter into interdepartmental agreements with any other state agency;
- 13.14 (4) enter into joint powers agreements under chapter 471;
- 13.15 (5) evaluate and initiate real estate development projects on school trust lands with the
- 13.16 advice of the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission in order to generate long-term
- 13.17 economic return to the permanent school fund;
- 13.18 (6) serve as temporary trustee of school trust land for school trust lands subject to
- 13.19 proposed or active eminent domain proceedings; ~~and~~
- 13.20 (7) submit recommendations on strategies for school trust land leases, sales, or exchanges
- 13.21 ~~to the commissioner of natural resources and the~~ Legislative Permanent School Fund
- 13.22 ~~Commission;~~
- 13.23 (8) offer school trust lands at public auction when the director, in consultation with the
- 13.24 Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission, determines it is advantageous for the
- 13.25 school trust to divest of its real property assets;
- 13.26 (9) direct and control real estate transactions involving school trust lands, including land
- 13.27 sales, leasing, licensing, and permitting;
- 13.28 (10) accept for and on behalf of the permanent school fund a donation of money, gifts,
- 13.29 lands, interest in lands, or improvements on lands. A donation so received becomes state
- 13.30 property, is classified as school trust land as defined in section 92.025, and must be managed
- 13.31 consistent with section 127A.31. When the director proposes to accept a donation of land

14.1 or an interest in land, the director must notify the landowner of the option to express in the  
 14.2 deed whether the state may resell the land;

14.3 (11) have any school trust land or mineral asset appraised. Appraisers and real property  
 14.4 appraisals must meet the requirements under section 92.12, subdivision 1. The director must  
 14.5 coordinate any appraisal of school trust mineral assets, including severed mineral assets,  
 14.6 with the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission and Minerals Coordinating  
 14.7 Commission; and

14.8 (12) adopt rules to ensure that school trust lands and mineral assets are efficiently and  
 14.9 economically managed.

14.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019, except that paragraph (b),  
 14.11 clause (8), is effective July 1, 2018.

14.12 Sec. 22. **[127A.354] SCHOOL TRUST MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.**

14.13 Subdivision 1. **Account established; sources.** The school trust management account is  
 14.14 created in the special revenue fund in the state treasury, and money in the account may be  
 14.15 spent only for the purposes provided in subdivision 2. The following revenue must be  
 14.16 deposited in the school trust management account:

14.17 (1) all revenues generated from school trust lands, including revenues from timber sales  
 14.18 and mineral-related payments under section 93.22;

14.19 (2) money transferred to the account; and

14.20 (3) interest accruing from investment of the account.

14.21 Subd. 2. **Account purposes.** (a) Money in the school trust management account may  
 14.22 be spent only for:

14.23 (1) mineral-resource management and projects to enhance future mineral income and  
 14.24 promote new mineral-resource opportunities on school trust lands;

14.25 (2) improving, administering, and managing forests on school trust lands and constructing  
 14.26 and improving forest roads to enhance the forest value of school trust lands;

14.27 (3) real estate transaction costs for school trust lands, including valuation expenses, legal  
 14.28 fees, and transactional staff costs; and

14.29 (4) the costs incurred by the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission under  
 14.30 section 127A.30 and by the school trust lands director under section 127A.353.

15.1 (b) The balance in the account originating from payments under sections 93.14 to 93.285  
 15.2 that exceeds \$1,500,000 must be transferred to the permanent school fund on March 31,  
 15.3 June 30, September 30, and December 31 each year. The remaining balance that exceeds  
 15.4 \$..... must be transferred to the permanent school fund on June 30 each year.

15.5 Subd. 3. **Certification.** The school trust lands director must certify to the Legislative  
 15.6 Permanent School Fund Commission the total costs incurred for:

15.7 (1) forest management, forest improvement, and road improvement on school trust lands  
 15.8 during each fiscal year;

15.9 (2) mineral-resource management and projects to enhance future mineral income and  
 15.10 promote new mineral-resource opportunities; and

15.11 (3) real estate transaction and other costs of the school trust lands director necessary to  
 15.12 ensure that school trust lands are managed efficiently and in the best interests of the  
 15.13 beneficiaries.

15.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2018.

15.15 Sec. 23. **TRANSFERRING SCHOOL TRUST LAND ASSETS AND AUTHORITY.**

15.16 Unless otherwise provided by law, the responsibilities of the commissioner of natural  
 15.17 resources and other state agencies for administering or managing school trust lands as  
 15.18 defined under Minnesota Statutes, section 92.025, are transferred to the school trust lands  
 15.19 director in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 15.039.

15.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2020.

15.21 Sec. 24. **TRANSITION RECOMMENDATIONS; REPORT.**

15.22 By January 15, 2019, the commissioner of natural resources and the school trust lands  
 15.23 director must submit a report to the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission and  
 15.24 the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with  
 15.25 jurisdiction over education and environment and natural resources policy in accordance  
 15.26 with Minnesota Statutes, section 3.195. The report must include:

15.27 (1) recommendations for amending Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules to implement  
 15.28 the transfer of authorities over school trust lands provided under this act and for the transition  
 15.29 of authority over all school trust lands to the school trust lands director by July 1, 2020; and

16.1 (2) a transition plan and recommendations, including any management contract between  
16.2 the commissioner, director, and other entities, to transfer authority over school trust lands  
16.3 to the school trust lands director by July 1, 2020.

16.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2018.

16.5 Sec. 25. **REPEALER.**

16.6 Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 92.83, is repealed.

16.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2019.

**92.83 CONDEMNATION OF SCHOOL TRUST LAND.**

Subdivision 1. **Purpose.** The purpose of this section is to extinguish the school trust interest in school trust lands where long-term economic return is prohibited by designation or policy while producing economic benefits for Minnesota's public schools. For the purposes of satisfying the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 8, which limits the sale of school trust lands to a public sale, the commissioner of natural resources shall acquire school trust lands through condemnation, as provided in subdivision 2.

Subd. 2. **Commencement of condemnation proceedings.** When the commissioner of natural resources has determined sufficient money is available to acquire any of the lands identified under section 84.027, subdivision 18, paragraph (c), the commissioner shall proceed to extinguish the school trust interest by condemnation action. When requested by the commissioner, the attorney general shall commence condemnation of the identified school trust lands.

Subd. 3. **Payment.** The portion of the payment of the award and judgment that is for the value of the land shall be deposited into the permanent school fund. The remainder of the award and judgment payment shall first be remitted for reimbursement to the accounts from which expenses were paid, with any remainder deposited into the permanent school fund.

Subd. 4. **Account.** The school trust lands account is created in the state treasury. Money credited to the account is appropriated to the commissioner of natural resources for the purposes of this section.