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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 722

01/23/2023 Authored by Hansen, R., and Hollins

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy

02/13/2023 Adoption of Report: Re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; appropriating money to provide state incentives for
1.3 conservation reserve program.

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

1.5 Section 1. **CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM STATE INCENTIVES;**
1.6 **APPROPRIATION.**

1.7 \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 is appropriated from the general fund to the Board of
1.8 Water and Soil Resources to provide onetime state incentive payments to enrollees in the
1.9 federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) during the continuous enrollment period and
1.10 to enroll complementary areas in conservation easements consistent with Minnesota Statutes,
1.11 section 103F.515. The board may establish payment rates based on land valuation and on
1.12 environmental benefit criteria, including but not limited to surface water or groundwater
1.13 pollution reduction, drinking water protection, soil health, pollinator and wildlife habitat,
1.14 and other conservation enhancements. The board may use state funds to implement the
1.15 program and to provide technical assistance to landowners or their agents to fulfill enrollment
1.16 and contract provisions. The board must consult with the commissioners of agriculture,
1.17 health, natural resources, and the Pollution Control Agency and the United States Department
1.18 of Agriculture in establishing program criteria. This is a onetime appropriation and is
1.19 available until June 30, 2027.