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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 776

02/07/2019 Authored by Morrison, Hansen, Acomb, Cantrell, Anderson and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; appropriating money for lawns to legumes grant
1.3 program.

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

1.5 Section 1. APPROPRIATIONS; LAWNS TO LEGUMES GRANT PROGRAM.

1.6 (a) \$500,000 in fiscal year 2019, \$750,000 in fiscal year 2020, and \$750,000 in fiscal
1.7 year 2021 are appropriated from the general fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources
1.8 to provide cost-share grants to landowners to plant residential lawns with native vegetation
1.9 and pollinator-friendly forbs and legumes. The board must establish criteria for grants
1.10 awarded under this section. Criteria established under this section are not subject to the
1.11 rulemaking provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14, and Minnesota Statutes, section
1.12 14.386, does not apply. Grants awarded under this section may be made for up to 75 percent
1.13 of the costs of the project, except that in areas identified by the United States Fish and
1.14 Wildlife Service as areas where there is a high potential for rusty patched bumble bees to
1.15 be present, grants may be awarded for up to 90 percent of the costs of the project.

1.16 (b) \$750,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$750,000 in fiscal year 2021 are appropriated from
1.17 the general fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to provide cost-share grants to
1.18 cities, counties, and public schools to plant lawns at city, county, and public school properties
1.19 with native vegetation and pollinator-friendly forbs and legumes. The board must establish
1.20 criteria for grants awarded under this section. Criteria established under this section are not
1.21 subject to the rulemaking provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14, and Minnesota
1.22 Statutes, section 14.386, does not apply. Grants awarded under this section may be made
1.23 for up to 75 percent of the costs of the project, except that in areas identified by the United

2.1 States Fish and Wildlife Service as areas where there is a high potential for rusty patched
2.2 bumble bees to be present, grants may be awarded for up to 90 percent of the costs of the
2.3 project.

2.4 (c) The appropriations in this section are onetime and available until June 30, 2021.

2.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.