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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1723

05/18/2011 Authored by Buesgens, Hackbarth, Shimanski and Lohmer

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

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to constitutional amendments; proposing to amend the Minnesota
1.3 Constitution, article XI; repealing the increase in the sales and use tax rate
1.4 dedicated for natural resources and cultural heritage purposes; repealing
1.5 Minnesota Statutes 2010, sections 85.53; 97A.056, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6,
1.6 7; 114D.50; 129D.17.

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

1.8 Section 1. **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED.**

1.9 An amendment to the Minnesota Constitution is proposed to the people. If the
1.10 amendment is adopted, article XI, section 15, will be repealed.

1.11 Sec. 2. **SUBMISSION TO VOTERS.**

1.12 The proposed amendment must be submitted to the people at the 2012 general
1.13 election. The question submitted must be:

1.14 "Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to remove the sales and use tax rate
1.15 increase of three-eighths of one percent that began July 1, 2009, and is dedicated to protect
1.16 our drinking water sources; to protect, enhance, and restore our wetlands, prairies, forests,
1.17 and fish, game, and wildlife habitat; to preserve our arts and cultural heritage; to support
1.18 our parks and trails; and to protect, enhance, and restore our lakes, rivers, streams, and
1.19 groundwater until the year 2034?

1.20 Yes

1.21 No"

1.22 Sec. 3. **REVENUE TRANSFER; SALES TAX REBATES.**

2.1 (a) On January 1, 2013, the commissioner of management and budget shall transfer
2.2 the remaining funds in the parks and trails fund, outdoor heritage fund, clean water fund,
2.3 and arts and cultural heritage fund to the general fund if the total combined balance in
2.4 the funds is less than \$5,000,000.

2.5 (b) On January 1, 2013, the remaining funds in the parks and trails fund, outdoor
2.6 heritage fund, clean water fund, and arts and cultural heritage fund shall be refunded to the
2.7 taxpayers through a sales tax rebate as provided by law if the total combined balance in
2.8 the funds is \$5,000,000 or greater.

2.9 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective November 15, 2012, if the
2.10 constitutional amendment in section 1 is adopted by the voters.

2.11 Sec. 4. **REPEALER.**

2.12 (a) Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 97A.056, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, are
2.13 repealed.

2.14 (b) Minnesota Statutes 2010, sections 85.53; 97A.056, subdivision 1; 114D.50;
2.15 and 129D.17, are repealed.

2.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** Paragraph (a) is effective November 15, 2012, if the
2.17 constitutional amendment in section 1 is adopted by the voters. Paragraph (b) is effective
2.18 January 1, 2013, if the constitutional amendment in section 1 is adopted by the voters.