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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2787

03/08/2016 Authored by Hausman and Lillie

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Mining and Outdoor Recreation Policy

03/31/2016 Adoption of Report: Re-referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to capital investment; appropriating money for acquisition and
1.3 development of state parks, recreation areas, and trails; authorizing the sale
1.4 and issuance of state bonds.

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

1.6 Section 1. **STATE PARK, RECREATION AREA, AND TRAIL ACQUISITION**
1.7 **AND DEVELOPMENT.**

1.8 Subdivision 1. State park and recreation areas. \$10,000,000 is appropriated from
1.9 the bond proceeds fund to the commissioner of natural resources to:

1.10 (1) develop a new visitor center at Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine
1.11 State Park and rehabilitate the mine shaft;

1.12 (2) develop new mountain biking trails, campground improvements, additional
1.13 yurts, a trailhead, and support features, such as parking, toilets, and an operations shop at
1.14 Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area;

1.15 (3) develop the Fort Snelling Upper Bluff; and

1.16 (4) redevelop the beach picnic area at William O'Brien State Park.

1.17 Development, redevelopment, and rehabilitation may include predesign, design,
1.18 construction, furnishing, and equipping, as necessary for each project. For any project
1.19 listed in this subdivision that the commissioner determines is not ready to proceed, the
1.20 commissioner may reallocate that project's money to another state park or recreation
1.21 area project determined to be a priority by the commissioner. The commissioner must
1.22 notify the chairs of the house of representatives and senate committees with jurisdiction
1.23 over environment and natural resources, and legislators from the affected legislative
1.24 districts, of any changes.

2.1 Subd. 2. **State trails.** (a) \$17,720,000 is appropriated from the bond proceeds fund
2.2 to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire land for and to construct and renovate
2.3 state trails under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.015. This appropriation includes funding
2.4 for the following trail projects:

2.5 (1) \$1,250,000 is for the Casey Jones Trail, and is to develop and pave approximately
2.6 five miles of existing rail bed into the city of Woodstock, including prairie restoration
2.7 and development of interpretive displays;

2.8 (2) \$2,250,000 is for the Chester Woods Trail, and is to complete construction of a
2.9 five-mile segment connecting the city of Rochester to Chester Woods County Park, and to
2.10 acquire land from willing sellers for an eventual connection to the city of Eyota;

2.11 (3) \$3,130,000 is for the Gitchi-Gami Trail, and is to complete a trail connection
2.12 in the city of Tofte and extend the trail approximately 3.3 miles from Grand Marais to
2.13 Cutface Creek;

2.14 (4) \$2,590,000 is for the Glacial Lakes Trail, and is to complete an approximately
2.15 six and one-quarter mile trail connection between New London and Sibley State Park,
2.16 and includes repair of the bicycle trail in Sibley State Park;

2.17 (5) \$1,300,000 is for the Goodhue Pioneer Trail, and is to extend it approximately
2.18 five miles from its current terminus north of Zumbrota and into Goodhue;

2.19 (6) \$350,000 is for the Heartland Trail, and is to develop a trail head parking area
2.20 along the existing trail in Park Rapids, and to predesign a trail connection to Itasca State
2.21 Park;

2.22 (7) \$2,200,000 is for a trail connection through Interstate State Park to connect
2.23 Taylors Falls to the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail;

2.24 (8) \$650,000 is for the Mill Towns Trail, to match federal funding for a bicycle and
2.25 pedestrian bridge in Faribault to connect the Mill Towns Trail with the Sakatah Singing
2.26 Hills Trail;

2.27 (9) \$1,500,000 is for the Minnesota Valley Trail, and is to complete a 13-mile
2.28 trail along the Minnesota River in Bloomington with both a hard and natural surface
2.29 to accommodate multiple uses;

2.30 (10) \$1,000,000 is for the Mississippi Blufflands Trail, and is to acquire land for
2.31 and to construct a portion of the trail between Red Wing and Lake City, including a
2.32 connection to Frontenac State Park; and

2.33 (11) \$1,500,000 is for the Blufflands Trail System, and is to extend the Preston
2.34 to Harmony segment approximately six miles to the Iowa border to connect with
2.35 northeastern Iowa's emerging regional trail network. This project includes connecting
2.36 the trail to Niagara Cave.

3.1 **(b) For any project listed in this subdivision that the commissioner determines is not**
3.2 **ready to proceed, the commissioner may reallocate that project's money to another state**
3.3 **trail project described in this section or other state trail infrastructure. The commissioner**
3.4 **must notify the chairs of the house of representatives and senate committees with**
3.5 **jurisdiction over environment and natural resources, and legislators from the affected**
3.6 **legislative districts, of any changes.**

3.7 **Subd. 3. **Bond sale.** To provide the money appropriated in this section from the**
3.8 **bond proceeds fund, the commissioner of management and budget shall sell and issue**
3.9 **bonds of the state in an amount up to \$27,720,000 in the manner, upon the terms, and with**
3.10 **the effect prescribed by Minnesota Statutes, sections 16A.631 to 16A.675, and by the**
3.11 **Minnesota Constitution, article XI, sections 4 to 7.**

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