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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 881

01/25/2023

Authored by Igo

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

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to natural resources; establishing Hill-Annex Mine State Park Advisory  
1.3 Council; establishing management requirements for Hill-Annex Mine State Park;  
1.4 amending Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 3, section 111;  
1.5 proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 85.

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

1.7 Section 1. [85.0147] HILL-ANNEX MINE STATE PARK; ADVISORY COUNCIL.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Advisory council created. The Hill-Annex Mine State Park Advisory  
1.9 Council is established. Membership on the advisory council must include:

1.10 (1) a designee of the commissioner of the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation  
1.11 Board;

1.12 (2) a representative of the city of Calumet;

1.13 (3) a representative of Itasca County;

1.14 (4) a representative of the city of Marble;

1.15 (5) a representative of the Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board; and

1.16 (6) a representative of the Department of Natural Resources.

1.17 Subd. 2. Administration. The advisory council must meet at least quarterly. The council  
1.18 must elect a chair, and meetings must be at the call of the chair. Members must accept no  
1.19 per diem.

1.20 Subd. 3. Duties. The advisory council may:

2.1 (1) review and advise the commissioner of natural resources on matters related to  
 2.2 facilities, activities, and operations at Hill-Annex Mine State Park;

2.3 (2) identify, evaluate, and advise on alternative models for sustainable and viable park  
 2.4 operation;

2.5 (3) identify park services that go beyond the service level required to be maintained  
 2.6 under section 85.0148 and suggest or identify funding arrangements for those services;

2.7 (4) review technical, financial, and other information provided to the council by the  
 2.8 commissioner of natural resources; and

2.9 (5) consult with and advise the commissioner of natural resources on all matters related  
 2.10 to the park.

2.11 **Sec. 2. [85.0148] HILL-ANNEX MINE STATE PARK; MANAGEMENT AND**  
 2.12 **OPERATIONS.**

2.13 Subdivision 1. **Objective.** Iron ore mining is the state's long-term objective for the  
 2.14 Hill-Annex Mine State Park area, but until active mining resumes at the park site, the  
 2.15 commissioner of natural resources must maintain facilities and operate the park at service  
 2.16 levels and with hours of operation as provided in this section.

2.17 Subd. 2. **Operations.** The commissioner of natural resources must operate the Hill-Annex  
 2.18 Mine State Park for the purposes it was established and must maintain the level of service  
 2.19 and the days and hours of operation at the park at or above the levels maintained in fiscal  
 2.20 year 2016.

2.21 Subd. 3. **Consultation required.** The commissioner of natural resources must consult  
 2.22 at least quarterly with the Hill-Annex Mine State Park Advisory Council on all matters  
 2.23 related to park facilities, activities, and operations.

2.24 **Sec. 3. Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 3, section 111, is amended to**  
 2.25 **read:**

2.26 **Sec. 111. HILL-ANNEX MINE STATE PARK; MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION.**

2.27 ~~(a) The commissioner of natural resources must operate the Hill-Annex Mine State Park~~  
 2.28 ~~for the purposes it was established through June 30, 2021, and must during that time maintain~~  
 2.29 ~~at fiscal year 2016 levels, the level of service and hours of operation at the park. The~~  
 2.30 ~~commissioner must work with the group established under Laws 2017, chapter 93, article~~  
 2.31 ~~2, section 156, to review park activities and the alternate operating model developed and~~

3.1 ~~identify options for sustainable and viable operation of the park site. The commissioner~~  
3.2 ~~must submit recommendations to the chairs and ranking minority members of the house of~~  
3.3 ~~representatives and senate committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the environment~~  
3.4 ~~and natural resources by January 15, 2021.~~

3.5 (b) The commissioner of natural resources must work with the ~~city of Calumet, other~~  
3.6 ~~neighboring cities and townships, and other local units of government~~ Hill-Annex Mine  
3.7 State Park Advisory Council to identify and coordinate volunteers to supplement the  
3.8 Department of Natural Resources' park operations to the extent allowable under state law  
3.9 and rules.