

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

S.F. No. 1552

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DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/09/2015	615	Introduction and first reading Referred to Transportation and Public Safety

A bill for an act

1.1 relating to transportation; commercially navigable waters; creating an upriver
1.2 business grant program for businesses affected by the closure of the Upper
1.3 St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam; modifying the transportation economic
1.4 development program; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014,
1.5 section 174.12, by adding a subdivision.
1.6

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

1.8 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 174.12, is amended by adding a
1.9 subdivision to read:

1.10 Subd. 9. Upper St. Anthony Lock and Dam closure grant program. (a) The
1.11 Upper St. Anthony Lock and Dam closure grant program is created to provide economic
1.12 assistance to businesses adversely affected by the closure of the Upper St. Anthony Falls
1.13 Lock and Dam.

1.14 (b) Notwithstanding subdivisions 5, 6, and 7, the commissioner of employment
1.15 and economic development shall:

1.16 (1) accept grant applications from businesses eligible for assistance under paragraph

1.17 (c). Grant applications must be submitted on a form specified by the commissioner;

1.18 (2) review grant applications in the order in which they are received; and

1.19 (3) award grants to eligible applicants within the limits of available appropriations
1.20 and within 60 days after receipt of an application.

1.21 (c) To be eligible for a grant under this section, a business must:

1.22 (1) be located upriver of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and operate a
1.23 commercial navigation facility; and

1.24 (2) be actively engaged in the use of commercial vessels on the commercially
1.25 navigable waters of the Mississippi River to expedite the movement of commodities.

2.1 (d) Funds awarded under this subdivision may be used for relocation costs, the
2.2 development of alternative methods of transporting commodities or materials, mitigation
2.3 of increased operating costs, and other shipping and handling costs associated with
2.4 the development and operation of alternative methods of transporting commodities or
2.5 materials over the period of time specified in the grant application.

2.6 (e) For the purpose of this subdivision, "commercial vessel" and "commercial
2.7 navigation facility" have the meanings given in section 457A.01

2.8 **Sec. 2. UPPER ST. ANTHONY LOCK AND DAM CLOSURE GRANTS;**
2.9 **APPROPRIATION.**

2.10 \$40,000,000 in fiscal year 2016 is appropriated from the general fund to the
2.11 commissioner of employment and economic development for grants under Minnesota
2.12 Statutes, section 174.12, subdivision 9, to provide economic assistance to businesses
2.13 adversely affected by the closure of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam. This is
2.14 a onetime appropriation.