

SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETIETH SESSION

S.F. No. 3404

(SENATE AUTHORS: RUUD)		
DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/15/2018	6512	Introduction and first reading
		Referred to Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance
03/22/2018	6901	Comm report: To pass
	6919	Second reading

1.1

A bill for an act

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relating to legacy; modifying requirements for restoration evaluations from parks

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and trails fund; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 85.53, subdivision 5.

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

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Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 85.53, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

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Subd. 5. **Restoration evaluations.** The commissioner of natural resources may convene

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a technical evaluation panel comprised of five members, including one technical

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representative from the Board of Water and Soil Resources, one technical representative

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from the Department of Natural Resources, one technical expert from the University of

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Minnesota or the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, and two other representatives

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with expertise related to the project being evaluated. The commissioner may add a technical

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representative from a unit of federal or local government. The members of the technical

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evaluation panel may not be associated with the restoration, may vary depending upon the

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projects being reviewed, and shall avoid any potential conflicts of interest. Each year, the

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commissioner may assign a coordinator to identify a sample of ~~up to ten~~ habitat restoration

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projects completed with parks and trails funding. The coordinator shall secure the restoration

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plans for the projects specified and direct the technical evaluation panel to evaluate the

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restorations relative to the law, current science, and the stated goals and standards in the

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restoration plan and, when applicable, to the Board of Water and Soil Resources' native

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vegetation establishment and enhancement guidelines. The coordinator shall summarize

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the findings of the panel and provide a report to the chairs of the respective house of

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representatives and senate policy and finance committees with jurisdiction over natural

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resources and spending from the parks and trails fund. The report shall determine if the

- 2.1 restorations are meeting planned goals, any problems with the implementation of restorations,
- 2.2 and, if necessary, recommendations on improving restorations. The report shall be focused
- 2.3 on improving future restorations. Up to one-tenth of one percent of forecasted receipts from
- 2.4 the parks and trails fund may be used for restoration evaluations under this section.