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DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/10/2011	484	Introduction and first reading Referred to Environment and Natural Resources
03/23/2011	626a	Comm report: To pass as amended and re-refer to State Government Innovation and Veterans
03/24/2011	639	Comm report: To pass and re-referred to Finance

1.1A bill for an act

1.2relating to environment; preempting rules in establishing sulfates water quality

1.3standard in Class 4A waters; appropriating money.

1.4BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5Section 1. **SULFATES WATER QUALITY STANDARD; CLASS 4A WATERS.**

1.6(a) Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 7050.0224, subpart 2, the water quality

1.7standard for sulfates in Class 4A waters is 50 milligrams per liter (mg/L), applicable to

1.8water used for production of wild rice during periods when the rice may be susceptible

1.9to damage by high sulfate levels.

1.10(b) Within 30 days of the effective date of this act, the commissioner of the Pollution

1.11Control Agency must create an advisory group to provide input to the commissioner on

1.12a protocol for scientific research to assess the impacts of sulfates and other substances

1.13on the growth of wild rice, review research results, and provide other advice on the

1.14development of future rule amendments to protect wild rice. The group must include the

1.15commissioners of natural resources and the Pollution Control Agency, or their designees,

1.16and representatives of tribal governments, municipal wastewater treatment facilities,

1.17the mining industry, industrial dischargers, the University of Minnesota, and wild rice

1.18research experts.

1.19(c) By December 15, 2011, the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency

1.20must report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over environment and

1.21natural resources policy on the progress of the advisory group under paragraph (b). By

1.22December 15, 2012, the commissioner must recommend to the legislative committees

1.23with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources policy a sulfates water quality

1.24standard for Class 4A waters that is supported by current science and the work of the

S.F. No. 732, as introduced - 87th Legislative Session (2011-2012) [11-2109]

2.1 advisory group under paragraph (b). The standard under paragraph (a) remains in effect
2.2 until the legislature enacts a new statutory standard.

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

2.4 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.5 \$..... is appropriated from the general fund in fiscal year 2012 to the commissioner
2.6 of the Pollution Control Agency for purposes of section 1.