SENATE STATE OF MINNESOTA EIGHTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

S.F. No. 838

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D-PGOFFICIAL STATUS522Introduction and first reading
Referred to Taxes

| 1.1 | A bill for an act |
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| 1.2 | relating to taxation; providing a Minnesota housing tax credit; proposing coding |
| 1.3 | for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 290. |
| 1.4 | BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA: |

| Section 1. [290.0682] HOUSING TAX CREDIT. |
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| Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms |
| have the meanings given, unless the context clearly requires otherwise. |
| (b) "Agency" means the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. |
| (c) "Compliance agreement" means an agreement: |
| (1) between the owner of a qualified Minnesota project and the agency or |
| suballocator; |
| (2) that is recorded as an affordable housing restriction on the real property on which |
| the qualified Minnesota project is located; and |
| (3) that requires the project to be operated in accordance with the requirements |
| of this section for the compliance period. |
| The agreement may be subordinated to the lien of a bank or other institutional |
| lender providing financing to the qualified Minnesota project upon the request of the |
| bank or lender. |
| (d) "Compliance period" means the period of time as determined by the agency for |
| which a project is subject to a compliance agreement between the owner of a qualified |
| Minnesota project and the agency or suballocator beginning with the first taxable year a |
| credit is claimed under this section. |
| (e) "Eligibility statement" means a statement authorized and issued by the agency |
| or suballocator certifying that a project is a qualified Minnesota project. The eligibility |
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| 2.1 | statement must specify the maximum annual amount of the credit authorized for the |
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| 2.2 | project. |
| 2.3 | (f) "Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit" means the federal tax credit provided |
| 2.4 | in section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code. |
| 2.5 | (g) "Qualified Minnesota project" means a rental housing project that is located in |
| 2.6 | Minnesota and meets the following requirements: |
| 2.7 | (1)(i) has been allocated federal low-income housing tax credits by the agency |
| 2.8 | or a suballocator; or |
| 2.9 | (ii) is a housing project that has received a funding commitment from the agency |
| 2.10 | under the economic development and housing challenge program under section 462A.33; |
| 2.11 | and |
| 2.12 | (2) the owner of the rental housing project enters into a compliance agreement with |
| 2.13 | the agency or the suballocator that is enforceable by state and local agencies. |
| 2.14 | (h) "Suballocator" means an allocator, other than the agency, of low-income federal |
| 2.15 | housing credits and credits under this section as provided in section 462A.222. |
| 2.16 | (i) "Taxpayer" means a person, firm, partnership, or other entity subject to the |
| 2.17 | individual income tax or corporate franchise tax under this chapter or to the insurance |
| 2.18 | gross premiums tax under chapter 297I. |
| 2.19 | (j) Terms not otherwise defined in this subdivision have the meanings provided in |
| 2.20 | section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code. |
| 2.21 | Subd. 2. Minnesota housing tax credit; allocation. (a) The agency and all |
| 2.22 | suballocators may allocate credits annually for a five-year period beginning January 1, |
| 2.23 | 2012. The total amount of credits that may be allocated each year is the sum of: |
| 2.24 | <u>(1) \$;</u> |
| 2.25 | (2) any unused Minnesota housing tax credits, if any, for the preceding calendar |
| 2.26 | years; and |
| 2.27 | (3) any Minnesota housing tax credits returned to the agency or a suballocator |
| 2.28 | by a qualified Minnesota project. |
| 2.29 | (b) Unless otherwise provided in this section, the agency shall authorize, administer, |
| 2.30 | and determine eligibility for the credit under this section, in accordance with criteria used |
| 2.31 | in awarding federal low-income housing credits and in making funding commitments |
| 2.32 | under the economic development and housing challenge program in section 462A.33. |
| 2.33 | (c) The agency must allocate credits to suballocators under this section in the manner |
| 2.34 | and in the respective amounts provided in section 462A.222. |
| 2.35 | (d) The agency and suballocators may only allocate tax credits to owners of qualified |
| 2.36 | Minnesota projects that are placed in service on or after January 1, 2012. |

| 3.1 | Subd. 3. Credit allowed; limitations; transfer. (a) A taxpayer who holds a credit |
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| 3.2 | under subdivision 2 may claim the Minnesota housing tax credit against the taxes imposed |
| 3.3 | under this chapter and chapter 297I. The taxpayer may claim the amount allocated in the |
| 3.4 | year in which the credit is allocated and in each of the four following taxable years. |
| 3.5 | (b) A credit allowed under this section may not exceed liability for tax under this |
| 3.6 | chapter and chapter 297I. |
| 3.7 | (c) If the amount of the credit under this section exceeds the limitation under |
| 3.8 | paragraph (b), the excess shall be a Minnesota housing tax credit carryover to each of the |
| 3.9 | five succeeding taxable years. The entire amount of the excess unused credit for the |
| 3.10 | taxable year must be carried first to the earliest of the taxable years to which the credit |
| 3.11 | may be carried and then to each successive year to which the credit may be carried. |
| 3.12 | (d) All or any portion of tax credits issued under this section may be transferred, |
| 3.13 | sold, or assigned to one or more entities without regard to ownership in the qualified |
| 3.14 | Minnesota project and without regard to any other allocation of credits, depreciation, |
| 3.15 | profits, or losses under the entities' organizational documents. All or any portion of the |
| 3.16 | tax credits issued under this section may be further transferred, sold, or assigned to one |
| 3.17 | or more entities without transferring any ownership interest in the qualified Minnesota |
| 3.18 | project or any interest in the entity owning the project. The transferor and transferee of |
| 3.19 | tax credits must notify the Department of Revenue of the transfer in a form and manner |
| 3.20 | as specified by the commissioner. The transfer is for credits attributable to periods after |
| 3.21 | the transfer date, and may not include carryforward of prior year credits. A partial year |
| 3.22 | shall be allocated on a daily basis. |
| 3.23 | (e) An owner of a qualified Minnesota project must certify to the commissioner |
| 3.24 | the amount of credit allocated to each entity and provide the commissioner with other |
| 3.25 | information required by the commissioner to determine the allocation of the credit. |
| 3.26 | The owner of a qualified Minnesota project eligible for the credit must submit to the |
| 3.27 | Department of Revenue a copy of the eligibility statement issued by the agency or |
| 3.28 | suballocator with respect to the qualified Minnesota project and a copy of the project |
| 3.29 | owner's tax return that must be filed as required under chapter 289A. If the owner fails to |
| 3.30 | attach the eligibility statement, a credit is not allowed for that project for that taxable year |
| 3.31 | until the copy is provided to the commissioner. |
| 3.32 | Subd. 4. Credit duration. Except for unused credits carried forward under this |
| 3.33 | section, a taxpayer is eligible for the Minnesota housing tax credit for a project for no |
| 3.34 | more than five taxable years. |
| 3.35 | Subd. 5. Education; promotion; enhancement. (a) The agency, in cooperation |
| 3.36 | with the suballocators, shall conduct periodic educational seminars and promotional |

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| 4.1 | events to inform potentially interested purchasers of the state credit and shall facilitate |
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| 4.2 | and encourage creation of state credit buyer pools to acquire federal and state credits |
| 4.3 | in Minnesota. |
| 4.4 | (b) The agency, in collaboration with the suballocators, may pursue methods of |
| 4.5 | enhancing the efficiency of the Minnesota housing tax credit program, including pursuing |
| 4.6 | opinions from the Internal Revenue Service in the form of general counsel memoranda, |
| 4.7 | private letter rulings and other notices, rulings, or guidelines to enhance the value of the |
| 4.8 | credits; by reviewing other state housing tax programs that utilize an option for taxpayers |
| 4.9 | to receive the tax credits in the form of a loan generated by transferring the credit to a |
| 4.10 | designated state entity; and any other methods. |
| 4.11 | (c) Not later than January 15, 2016, the agency shall submit a written report to the |
| 4.12 | chairs and ranking minority members of the committees of the legislature with jurisdiction |
| 4.13 | over taxes, in compliance with sections 3.195 and 3.197, on the success and efficiency of |
| 4.14 | the Minnesota housing tax credit program. The report must include recommendations for |
| 4.15 | the enhancement or modification of the program. |
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| 4.16 | EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment, |
| 4.17 | with credit authorizations allowed for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2011. |