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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 1141

02/14/2019 Authored by Sandell, Torkelson, Persell, Claflin and Fischer
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to water; appropriating money to study managed aquifer recharge; requiring
1.3 a report.

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

1.5 Section 1. APPROPRIATION; MANAGED AQUIFER RECHARGE.

1.6 (a) \$350,000 in fiscal year 2020 is appropriated from the general fund to the
1.7 Environmental Quality Board for a grant to the Board of Regents of the University of
1.8 Minnesota, Water Resources Center, for a comprehensive study of the economic benefits
1.9 of managed aquifer recharge and to make recommendations to enhance and replenish
1.10 Minnesota's groundwater resources. This is a onetime appropriation.

1.11 (b) The study must include, but is not limited to:

1.12 (1) examining the potential benefits of enhancing groundwater recharge in water-stressed
1.13 areas;

1.14 (2) assessing the relationship to changing seasonality and intensity of precipitation on
1.15 groundwater recharge rates;

1.16 (3) reviewing the approaches to manage recharge in geologically appropriate areas;

1.17 (4) identifying policy options, costs, and barriers to recharging groundwater; and

1.18 (5) assessing the economic returns of options for groundwater recharge.

1.19 (c) In conducting the study, the Water Resources Center must convene a stakeholder
1.20 group and provide for public participation. By January 15, 2021, the Water Resources Center
1.21 must present its findings and recommendations in a report submitted to the chairs of the

- 2.1 legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources
- 2.2 policy.