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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 1514

02/09/2023 Authored by Hansen, R.; Clardy and Lee, F., The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to the Metropolitan Council; creating a new inflow and infiltration grant
1.3 program for metropolitan cities; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota
1.4 Statutes, chapter 473.

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

1.6 Section 1. 473.5491 METROPOLITAN CITIES INFLOW AND INFILTRATION
1.7 GRANTS.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have
1.9 the meanings given.

1.10 (b) "Affordability criteria" means an inflow and infiltration project service area that is
1.11 located, in whole or in part, in a census tract where at least three of the following apply as
1.12 determined using the most recently published data from the United States Census Bureau
1.13 or United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

1.14 (1) 20 percent or more of the residents have income below the federal poverty thresholds;

1.15 (2) the tract has a United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Social
1.16 Vulnerability Index greater than 0.80;

1.17 (3) the upper limit of the lowest quintile of household income is less than the state upper
1.18 limit of the lowest quintile;

1.19 (4) the housing vacancy rate is greater than the state average; or

1.20 (5) the percent of the population receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
1.21 (SNAP) benefits is greater than the state average.

2.1 (c) "City" means a statutory or home rule charter city located within the metropolitan
2.2 area.

2.3 Subd. 2. **Grants.** (a) The council shall make grants to cities for capital improvements
2.4 in municipal wastewater collection systems to reduce the amount of inflow and infiltration
2.5 to the council's metropolitan sanitary sewer disposal system.

2.6 (b) A grant under this section may be made in an amount up to 50 percent of the cost to
2.7 mitigate inflow and infiltration in the publicly owned municipal wastewater collection
2.8 system. The council may award a grant up to 100 percent of the cost to mitigate inflow and
2.9 infiltration in the publicly owned municipal wastewater collection system if the project
2.10 meets affordability criteria.

2.11 Subd. 3. **Eligibility.** To be eligible for a grant under this section, a city must be identified
2.12 by the council as a contributor of excessive inflow and infiltration in the metropolitan
2.13 disposal system or have a measured flow rate within 20 percent of its allowable
2.14 council-determined inflow and infiltration limits.

2.15 Subd. 4. **Application.** The council must award grants based on applications from cities
2.16 that identify eligible capital costs and include a timeline for inflow and infiltration mitigation
2.17 construction, pursuant to guidelines established by the council. The council must prioritize
2.18 applications that meet affordability criteria.

2.19 Subd. 5. **Cancellation.** If a grant is awarded to a city and funds are not encumbered for
2.20 the grant within four years after the award date, the grant must be canceled.

2.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2023.