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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

H. F. No. **2102**

02/25/2014 Authored by Torkelson and Woodard

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Taxes

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to taxation; property; reinstating valuation reductions for conservation
1.3 easements; amending Minnesota Statutes 2013 Supplement, section 273.117.

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

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2013 Supplement, section 273.117, is amended to read:

1.6 **273.117 CONSERVATION PROPERTY TAX VALUATION.**

1.7 The value of real property which is subject to a conservation restriction or easement
1.8 ~~shall not be reduced~~ may be adjusted by the assessor if:

1.9 (a) the restriction or easement is for a conservation purpose as defined in section
1.10 84.64, subdivision 2, and is recorded on the property; and

1.11 (b) the property is being used in accordance with the terms of the conservation
1.12 restriction or easement.

1.13 ~~This section does not apply to (1) conservation restrictions or easements covering~~
1.14 ~~riparian buffers along lakes, rivers, and streams that are used for water quantity or quality~~
1.15 ~~control; or (2) easements in a county that has adopted, by referendum, a program to protect~~
1.16 ~~farmland and natural areas since 1999.~~

1.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning with assessment year
1.18 2014, for taxes payable in 2015.