

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
SPECIAL SESSION**

S.F. No. 34

(SENATE AUTHORS: TOMASSONI)

DATE
06/15/2021

D-PG

16 Introduction and first reading
Referred to Rules and Administration

OFFICIAL STATUS

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to energy; appropriating money for the Hibbing Public Utilities Commission
- 1.3 for excessive natural gas prices paid during the 2021 polar vortex.
- 1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.5 Section 1. **HIBBING PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION; APPROPRIATION.**
- 1.6 (a) \$1,640,000 in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the general fund to the
- 1.7 commissioner of commerce for a grant to the Hibbing Public Utilities Commission to pay
- 1.8 for excessive costs incurred as a result of the natural gas price spike during the extreme cold
- 1.9 weather of the February 2021 polar vortex.
- 1.10 (b) If federal or other aid to provide relief from the natural gas price spike is made
- 1.11 available to and is directly received by the Hibbing Public Utilities Commission, an amount
- 1.12 equal to the additional aid received must be remitted to the commissioner of commerce for
- 1.13 deposit in the general fund. If the amount appropriated under paragraph (a) exceeds the total
- 1.14 costs incurred for natural gas purchases during the natural gas price spike, the remaining
- 1.15 balance cancels to the general fund.
- 1.16 (c) If the state receives federal aid that is intended to provide relief from the natural gas
- 1.17 price spike and the appropriation under paragraph (a) meets the relevant spending
- 1.18 requirements of the federal aid, the commissioner of commerce must deposit in the general
- 1.19 fund an amount equal to the amount of the federal aid the Hibbing Public Utilities
- 1.20 Commission is eligible to receive. If money is awarded to the state as a result of a settlement
- 1.21 or legal judgment regarding price gouging or other malfeasance relating to overpayment
- 1.22 for natural gas consumed during the 2021 polar vortex, an amount equal to the Hibbing

- 2.1 Public Utilities Commission's proportion of the settlement or legal judgment must be
- 2.2 deposited in the general fund.