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House Environment and Natural Resources Finance & Policy Committee

Dear Members,

Please amend HF5 Article 2 Section 22 to protect Minnesota historic sites and structures from easements. Presently, there is no protection for MN historic sites defined by statute 86A.05. It is often overlooked that DNR makes original declaration of historic sites and sites containing archaeological features or connections to significant events and persons in Minnesota and US history. DNR's role is to protect and preserve those sites for Minnesotans.

An amendment to HF5 as shown in A21 Delete All Amendment's article 2 section 22 Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 84.63 will protect Minnesota historic features, sites and archaeological areas from accidental destruction or oversight. Already in place but often forgotten, statute 86A.055 prohibits the sale or conveyance of any outdoor recreation system unit. 86A.055 sets the framework and precedence to exclude historic sites, districts, and archaeological fields from permanent easements. It is sudden death to a historic structure, site or district when an easement crosses it.

Please add an amendment that will exclude Minnesota historic sites identified and or defined in Chapters 138 and 86A.05 as well as adjacent state owned property to such sites. These two chapters define and identify the state's historic sites, districts, and records including National Registers.

HF5, Amendment to the wording shown in the A21 Delete All Amendment could read – after line 63.2 Insert: (h) State owned land known, suspected or designated to hold historical objects, structures, value, or contain the physical location of an event related to Minnesota history; or State owned land adjacent to any historic site, monument, or district identified in Chapter 138 or 86A is excluded.

Also, please repeal 2017 Ch. 54 Section 23. The conveyance of this Redwood county historic district and site purchased through federal funds secured by the State of Minnesota and identified as a historic site in the DNR's outdoor recreation system was sold for \$1 by the Minnesota Historical Society with the assistance of the Department of Natural Resources; the action violated existing section 86A.055 as noted above.

Thank you for protecting and preserving Minnesota's historic sites,

Stephanie Chappell
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Districts 18 & 18B

