

1.1 moves to amend H.F. No. 1631 as follows:

1.2 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.3 "Section 1. CANADIAN BORDER COUNTIES ECONOMIC RELIEF PROGRAM.

1.4 Subdivision 1. Relief program established. The Northland Foundation must develop
1.5 and implement a Canadian border counties economic relief program to assist businesses
1.6 adversely affected by the 2021 closure of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness or
1.7 the closures of the Canadian border since 2020.

1.8 Subd. 2. Available relief. (a) The economic relief program established under this section
1.9 may include grants provided in this section to the extent that funds are available. Before
1.10 awarding a grant to the Northland Foundation for the relief program under this section:

1.11 (1) the Northland Foundation must develop criteria, procedures, and requirements for:

1.12 (i) determining eligibility for assistance;

1.13 (ii) evaluating applications for assistance;

1.14 (iii) awarding assistance; and

1.15 (iv) administering the grant program authorized under this section;

1.16 (2) the Northland Foundation must submit its criteria, procedures, and requirements
1.17 developed under clause (1) to the commissioner of employment and economic development
1.18 for review; and

1.19 (3) the commissioner must approve the criteria, procedures, and requirements submitted
1.20 under clause (2).

1.21 (b) The maximum grant to a business under this section is \$50,000 per business.

2.1 Subd. 3. **Qualification requirements.** To qualify for assistance under this section, a
2.2 business must:

2.3 (1) be located within a county that shares a border with Canada;

2.4 (2) document a reduction of at least ten percent in gross receipts in 2021 compared to
2.5 2019; and

2.6 (3) provide a written explanation for how the 2021 closure of the Boundary Waters
2.7 Canoe Area Wilderness or the closures of the Canadian border since 2020 resulted in the
2.8 reduction in gross receipts documented under clause (2).

2.9 Subd. 4. **Monitoring.** (a) The Northland Foundation must establish performance
2.10 measures, including but not limited to the following components:

2.11 (1) the number of grants awarded and award amounts for each grant;

2.12 (2) the number of jobs created or retained as a result of the assistance, including
2.13 information on the wages and benefit levels, the status of the jobs as full time or part time,
2.14 and the status of the jobs as temporary or permanent;

2.15 (3) the amount of business activity and changes in gross revenues of the grant recipient
2.16 as a result of the assistance; and

2.17 (4) the new tax revenue generated as a result of the assistance.

2.18 (b) The commissioner of employment and economic development must monitor the
2.19 Northland Foundation's compliance with this section and the performance measures
2.20 developed under paragraph (a).

2.21 (c) The Northland Foundation must comply with all requests made by the commissioner
2.22 under this section.

2.23 Subd. 5. **Business subsidy requirements.** Minnesota Statutes, sections 116J.993 to
2.24 116J.995, do not apply to assistance under this section. Businesses in receipt of assistance
2.25 under this section must provide for job creation and retention goals, and wage and benefit
2.26 goals.

2.27 Subd. 6. **Administrative costs.** The commissioner of employment and economic
2.28 development may use up to one percent of the appropriation made for this section for
2.29 administrative expenses of the department.

2.30 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2023, and expires June 30, 2024.

3.1 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION; CANADIAN BORDER COUNTIES ECONOMIC**
3.2 **RELIEF PROGRAM.**

3.3 \$..... in fiscal year 2024 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of
3.4 employment and economic development for the Canadian border counties economic relief
3.5 program under section 1. Of this amount, \$..... is for Tribal economic development. This
3.6 is a onetime appropriation."

3.7 Amend the title accordingly