

1.1 Baker from the Committee on Workforce, Labor, and Economic Development Finance
1.2 and Policy to which was referred:

1.3 H. F. No. 8, A bill for an act relating to environment; improving efficiency of Wetland
1.4 Conservation Act determinations; modifying permitting efficiency reporting requirements;
1.5 improving the efficiency of the environmental and resource management permit application
1.6 process; requiring the Pollution Control Agency to issue separate permits for the construction
1.7 and operation of certain facilities; modifying the expedited permitting process of the Pollution
1.8 Control Agency; requiring petitioners for environmental assessment worksheets to reside
1.9 in the affected or adjoining counties; eliminating scoping environmental assessment
1.10 worksheet requirements for projects requiring an environmental impact statement; clarifying
1.11 local review; requiring modification of the state implementation plan; requiring reports;
1.12 appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 15.99, subdivision 3;
1.13 116.03, subdivision 2b; 116.07, subdivisions 4a, 4d; 116D.04, subdivisions 2a, 2b; 116J.035,
1.14 by adding a subdivision.

1.15 Reported the same back with the following amendments:

1.16 Page 17, after line 5, insert:

1.17 "Sec. 11. APPROPRIATION.

1.18 \$325,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$325,000 in fiscal year 2027 are appropriated from the
1.19 general fund to the commissioner of employment and economic development for an
1.20 ombudsman for business permitting under Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.035, subdivision
1.21 9."

1.22 With the recommendation that when so amended the bill be re-referred to the Committee
1.23 on Ways and Means.

1.24 This Committee action taken February 27, 2025

1.25, Chair