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Appropriates \$4,000,000 from the general fund to the commissioner of transportation for the 2000-2001 biennium for port development assistance.

This appropriation would be governed by the existing port development assistance law. Under that law any person, political subdivision, or port authority that owns a commercial navigation facility may apply to MnDOT for loans or grants for capital improvements, or for dredging in certain cases. The facility must be on the Mississippi, St., Croix, or Minnesota rivers or on Lake Superior. State assistance may cover up to 80 percent of the nonfederal share of a project's costs.