

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 1644  
**Version:** As introduced

**DATE:** January 31, 2012

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**Subject:** Watercraft Surcharges and Aquatic Plant Management Fees

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### Overview

This bill would increase the \$5 watercraft surcharge that is collected and used for aquatic invasive species activities, and modify aquatic plant management permit fee requirements.

- 1 Watercraft surcharge.** Amends § 86B.415, subd. 7. Increases the surcharge on watercrafts (currently \$5 for all watercrafts) as follows:
  - \$10 for canoes, kayaks, sailboats, sailboards, paddle boats, or rowing shells 19 feet in length or less;
  - \$20 for watercrafts less than 17 feet in length (excluding personal watercrafts, watercrafts owned by a dealer, watercrafts that are rented or leased, and watercrafts that are used by nonprofits for teaching boat and water safety); and
  - \$25 for all other watercrafts.
- 2 Fees.** Amends § 103G.615, subd. 2. Requires aquatic plant management permit fees to be based upon the cost of processing and issuing the permits, the costs of inspecting and monitoring the permitted activities, and enforcing aquatic plant management rules and permit requirements. Establishes fees for various aquatic plant management activities and exempts certain activities from permit requirements. Establishes requirements for submitting the fee with the application and allows refunds only when the application is withdrawn prior to field inspection or issuance/denial of the permit or no permit is required.