

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 595  
**Version:** As introduced

**DATE:** March 13, 2013

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**Subject:** Pollinator habitat

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### Overview

This bill would direct the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to enhance habitat for honey bees and other pollinators on state lands. The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) could allow landowners to improve pollinator habitat on private lands subject to a Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) conservation easement.

#### Section

- 1 Honey bee habitat program.** Requires DNR to establish a program that enhances habitat for honey bees and other pollinators on DNR lands. DNR must ensure that state lands throughout the state provide enhanced pollinator habitat. In spite of any law to the contrary, DNR may plant native or nonnative plants that are beneficial to pollinators. DNR may not enhance pollinator habitat on native prairies or Scientific and Natural Areas.
- 2 Nature of property rights acquired.** Allows BWSR to permit planting of native and nonnative species to enhance pollinator habitat on lands subject to a RIM easement. Requires BWSR to develop a list of suitable plants, best management practices, and standards in consultation with DNR. Pollinator habitat projects would not be allowed on native prairies.