

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 729
Version: As introduced

DATE: March 11, 2013

Authors: Mahoney

Subject: Governor's economic development recommendations

Analyst: Anita Neumann (651-296-5056)

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd/hrd.htm.

Section

Article 1

Appropriations

- 1 **Jobs and economic development appropriations.** Summary of appropriations.
- 2 **Jobs and economic development.** Specifies fund and fiscal year references.
- 3 **Department of employment and economic development.** Specifies line item appropriations.
- 4 **Housing finance agency.** Specifies line item appropriations.
- 5 **Department of labor and industry.** Specifies line item appropriations.
- 6 **Explore Minnesota Tourism.** Specifies line item appropriations.
- 7 **Department of transportation.** Specifies line item appropriations.
- 8 **Bureau of mediation services.** Specifies line item appropriations.
- 9 **Board of accountancy.** Specifies line item appropriations.
- 10 **Board of architecture, engineering, land surveying, landscape architecture, geoscience**

Section

- and interior design.** Specifies line item appropriations.
- 11 Board of cosmetologist examiners.** Specifies line item appropriations.
- 12 Board of barber examiners.** Specifies line item appropriations.
- 13 Workers' compensation court of appeals.** Specifies line item appropriations.

Article 2

Department of Labor and Industry.

- 1 Permits.** Adds elevator repairs to items needing a permit. Provides that a permit is valid for work that begins within 12 months of application and completed within two years of application. If no work is started within 12 months of application, the applicant may cancel a permit and request a refund of inspections fees.
- 2 Department permit and inspection fees.** Specifies elevator permit and inspection fees.
- 3 Operating permits and fees; periodic inspections.** Adds vertical reciprocating conveyors to items not requiring an operating permit fee subsequent to initial permit fees.
- 4 Utility interconnected wind generation installations.** Provides for calculation of fees.
- 5 Fees for plan reviews and audits.** Eliminates special fees for accelerated reviews.
- 6 Permits; fees.** Sets out plumbing fees.
- 7 Fee schedule.** Sets out combative sports licensing fees.
- 8 Repealer.** Repeals elevator fees set in rule.

Article 3

Department of Employment and Economic Development.

- 1 Administration.** Authorizes the commissioner to provide forgivable loans directly to private business without passing through a local government entity under the Minnesota Investment Fund (MIF).
- 2 Eligible expenditures.** Authorizes loans as well as grants for infrastructure.
- 3 Minnesota job creation fund.** Establishes the Minnesota job creations fund; sets forth requirements for designation and certification and outlines benefits available under program.
- 4 Minnesota trade office in foreign markets.** Directs the commissioner to establish three new trade offices in key foreign markets.

Section

- 5 Minnesota STEP grants.** Directs the creation of a State Trade and Export Promotion grant program to provide assistance to small businesses interested in exports. Makes grants of up to \$7,500 available on a reimbursement basis for approved activities.
- 6 Invest Minnesota.** Establishes a marketing initiative to brand Minnesota's economic development initiatives and promote business opportunities.
- 7 Unemployment insurance employer tax reduction.** Fixes the unemployment tax rate at .1 percent in calendar 2014 and 2015 if the state's unemployment insurance trust fund exceeds threshold amounts of \$800,000,000 for 2014 and \$900,000,000 for 2015.

Article 4

Department of Transportation.

- 1 Transportation economic development assistance program.** Directs the commissioners of DEED and MnDOT to establish and implement a program to provide geographically balanced financial assistance for projects in all modes of transportation to provide measurable state and local economic benefit.
- Establishes a special revenue account; sets out criteria for assistance, economic impact performance measures, project evaluation, and reporting to the legislature.

Article 5

Repeal Minnesota Science and Technology Authority.

- 1 Repealer.** Repeals chapter 116W, the Minnesota Science and Technology Authority.