HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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> Version: First engrossment

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Overview

This bill includes the fiscal year 2016 appropriations from the environment and natural resources trust fund based upon the recommendations of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR).

Section

- **Appropriations.** Technical. 1
- 2 Minnesota resources.
 - **Subd. 1. Total appropriation.** Provides a total appropriation of \$46,324,000 from the environment and natural resources trust fund and \$59,000 from the Great Lakes Protection Account.
 - Subd. 2. Trust fund definition. Technical.
 - Subd. 3. Foundational natural resource data and information. Provides a total appropriation for natural resource data and information projects of \$12,932,000.
 - **Subd. 4. Water resources.** Provides a total appropriation for water resources projects of \$3,065,000.
 - **Subd. 5. Environmental education.** Provides a total appropriation for environmental education projects of \$1,004,000.
 - **Subd. 6. Aquatic and terrestrial invasive species.** Provides a total appropriation for invasive species projects of \$6,071,000.

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Section

- **Subd. 7. Air quality, climate change, and renewable energy.** Provides a total appropriation for air quality, climate change, and renewable energy projects of \$2,268,000.
- **Subd. 8. Methods to protect, restore, and enhance land, water, and habitat.** Provides a total appropriation for projects for protection, restoration, and enhancement methods of \$5,646,000.
- **Subd. 9. Land acquisition for habitat and recreation.** Provides a total appropriation for land acquisition projects of \$14,190,000.
- **Subd. 10. Administration and contract agreement reimbursement.** Provides a total appropriation of \$1,207,000 for administrative expenses.
- **Subds. 11 to 19.** Provide project requirements that apply to all recipients. Similar requirements apply each year, including: specifying the availability of appropriations; data requirements; specific project requirements, including requiring ecological restoration and management plans, and requiring easements to be permanent and have a long-term monitoring and enforcement plan; and providing carry forwards for previous appropriations. New this year is a requirement (see subdivision 19) that prohibits land acquired with money appropriated in the bill from being planted with a product containing a pollinator lethal insecticide (which includes the neonicotinoid class of insecticides).
- **Duties.** Amends § 116P.05, subd. 3. Technical.
- 4 **Public meetings.** Amends § 116P.08, subd. 5. Technical.
- **Peer review.** Amends § 116P.08, subd. 6. Technical.
- **Peer reviewers.** Amends § 116P.08, subd. 5. Modifies the existing peer review process used by the LCCMR to remove the requirement that a "panel" be used.
- Administrative authority. Amends § 116P.09, subd. 1. Gives the authority to appoint commission staff and contract with consultants for the LCCMR to the Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC). Currently the statute provides the authority to the LCCMR. The section is effective the day following final enactment.
- **8 Conflict of interest.** Amends § 116P.09, subd. 6. Technical.
- **Technical advisory committees.** Amends § 116P.09, subd. 8. Modifies a requirement of the LCCMR to appoint technical advisory committees to eliminate the requirement and make it permissive (rather than mandatory).