

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 264
Version: As introduced

DATE: January 23, 2015

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Subject: Fiscal year 2015 deficiency funding

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Overview

This bill would provide additional funding in the current biennium for disaster relief and certain agency activities. The current two-year budget biennium ends on June 30th of this year. Each appropriation amount would be added to the agency's base budget level for the next biennium.

The disaster relief appropriations in this bill (sections 1 through 3) are also in HF 164, the first engrossment, which as of the date of this bill summary is finished with the committee process and on the House floor.

Section

1 Department of Public Safety.

Subdivision 1. Disaster assistance contingency account; appropriation.

Appropriates \$9,635,000 from the general fund to the disaster assistance contingency account. By law, this money would be available to the commissioner of public safety to (1) match FEMA assistance provided to state agencies, local units of government, and American Indian tribes that sustained eligible damages within presidentially-declared major disaster areas, and (2) local units of government and American Indian tribes that are eligible under a new (2014) state-only disaster assistance program.

Subd. 2. Transfer of unexpended appropriations. Transfers unexpended 2011 disaster relief appropriations to the disaster assistance contingency account. This money would also be available to the commissioner of public safety for the purposes described in section 1 above.

Section

- 2 **Department of Transportation.** Appropriates \$3 million from the general fund to the commissioner of transportation to match federal aid to repair local roads damaged by flooding in June 2014.
- 3 **Board of Water and Soil Resources.** Appropriates \$2,476,000 from the general fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for erosion, sediment, and water quality cost-share projects in the 37 counties and three tribal areas that are included in Presidential Declaration of Major Disaster DR-4182 (2014). Authorizes BWSR to develop alternative project standards and procedures.
- 4 **Department of Human Services.** Appropriates \$10,683,000 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the Minnesota Food Assistance Program (\$246,000) and the Minnesota Security Hospital (\$10,437,000).
- 5 **Department of Natural Resources.** Appropriates \$568,000 to the commissioner of natural resources for law enforcement activities. The total appropriation amount is comprised of specified appropriations from the general fund (\$69,000), the natural resources fund (\$128,000), and the game and fish fund (\$371,000).
- 6 **Department of Health.** Appropriates \$891,000 from the general fund to the commissioner of health for costs of statewide Ebola activities.
- 7 **Zoological Board.** Appropriates \$1,500,000 from the general fund to the Zoological Board (Minnesota Zoo) for zoo operations.
- 8 **Effective date.** All sections would take effect the day following final enactment.