

**File Number:** H.F. 4003  
**Version:** First engrossment

**Date:** May 4, 2018

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**Subject:** North and East Groundwater Management Area

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### Overview

This bill would temporarily prohibit the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from using funds to enforce certain permit conditions placed in groundwater appropriation permits as a result of a court order and temporarily allow the permit holders to take certain actions despite the court ordered permit conditions (the provisions would be in effect until July 1, 2019).

A recent court order regarding the lake levels of White Bear Lake required the DNR to review and amend groundwater appropriation permits within a five-mile radius of White Bear Lake to address lake levels, including requiring the permits to: enact residential irrigation bans when the lake level falls below a certain amount; have plans to phase down per capita water use; and require submission of a contingency plan for the use of surface water.

#### Section

- 1 Temporary enforcement of groundwater appropriation permit requirements.** Prohibits the DNR from using funds to take enforcement action against a permit holder for violating permit requirements established as a result of a 2017 court order.
- 2 Groundwater management area permit requirements.** Allows a permit holder, despite permit requirements established as a result of a 2017 court order, in a groundwater management area within the seven-county metropolitan area to use alternative measures of water use and alternatives to residential irrigation bans and removes a requirement that they have a contingency plan to use surface water.