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Article 1: Appropriations

Overview

See the spreadsheet prepared by Andrew Lee, House Fiscal Analyst, for amounts and sources of appropriations.

- 1 **Capital improvement appropriations.** Provides that the money:
 - is appropriated from state general obligation bond proceeds unless otherwise stated;
 - must be spent on purposes allowed by the state constitution;
 - may be used for state agency staff costs that are directly attributable to the capital program or project, subject to Minnesota Management and Budget policy;
 - is available until the project is completed or abandoned subject to the statute governing cancellation of capital funding; and
 - for asset preservation should not be used for work that can be done in a reasonable time using existing energy improvement financing programs.
- 2 **University of Minnesota.**
- 3 **Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.**
- 4 **Education.**
- 5 **Minnesota State Academies.**
- 6 **Natural Resources.**
- 7 **Pollution Control Agency.**

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- 8 **Board of Water and Soil Resources.**
- 9 **Minnesota Zoological Garden.**
- 10 **Administration.**
- 11 **MN.IT.**
- 12 **Military Affairs.**
- 13 **Public Safety.**
- 14 **Transportation.**
- 15 **Metropolitan Council.**
- 16 **Human Services.**
- 17 **Veterans Affairs.**
- 18 **Corrections.**
- 19 **Employment and Economic Development.**
- 20 **Public Facilities Authority.**
- 21 **Minnesota Housing Finance Agency.**
- 22 **Minnesota Historical Society.**
- 23 **Bond sale expenses.**
- 24 **Bond sale authorization.**
- 25 **Cancellations; bond sale authorization reductions.**
- 26 **Bond sale schedule.** Sets the limit (currently blank) on the amount that may be transferred from the general fund to the state bond fund to pay debt service during the biennium and directs MMB to time selling the bonds so as to not exceed that amount.
- 27 **Effective date.** Effective the day after enactment unless otherwise specified in the article.

Article 2: Miscellaneous

- 1 **Lewis and Clark appropriation bonds.** Permits use of the approximately \$7.2 million remaining authorization (out of the \$19 million) for phase 2 to be used for phase 3. Authorizes \$3.5 million to complete phase 3.
- 2 **Accommodation for hard-of-hearing in state-funded capital projects.**
 - Subd. 1. Definition.** Defines “public gathering space” as a space constructed or renovated and intended for use by 15 or more people and in which audible communications are integral to use of the space.
 - Subd. 2. Accommodation.** Prohibits state capital grants or contracts for construction or renovation of a public gathering space unless the project is equipped

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with audio-induction loops, if there will be a permanent audio-amplification system, and the project meets standards on background noise and reverberation.

Subd. 3. Exemption. Exempts a project from the requirement if it is not feasible, in conflict with other law or other project requirements, or the costs outweigh the benefits. Requires the commissioner to consult with the Commission on Deaf, Deafblind, and Hard-of-Hearing Minnesotans before making a determination.

Subd. 4. Exemption reports. Requires reports on exemptions made.

Effective date: This section is effective the day after enactment and applies to projects funded in a law enacted after January 1, 2017. Does not apply to a project that has completed schematic design on the effective date of this section but encourages compliance before then.

- 3 **Standards (natural resources asset preservation).** Adds project to remove life safety hazards such as building code violations or structural defects to the allowable uses of money appropriated to DNR for asset preservation.
- 4 **Upper bluff; lease term.** Amends the law governing the DNR's authority to lease property at the Upper Bluff of Fort Snelling State Park. Requires a lease of state bond financed property that is more than 50 years to be treated as a sale of the property and proceeds of the sale must be used to pay, redeem, or defease state GO bonds issued for the improvements to the buildings. After that, lease payments may be used to make capital improvements by the tenants, as currently provided in this section of statute.
- 5 **Certification and disbursal for project of political subdivision.** Local bridge rehabilitation grant program technical, clarifying change.
- 6 **Bridge costs in smaller cities.** Local bridge rehabilitation grant program technical, clarifying change.
- 7 **Fracture-critical bridges.** Local bridge rehabilitation grant program technical, clarifying change.
- 8 **Bridge grant program.** Limits grants from the Local Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation program administered by MnDOT to projects with a total project cost under \$7 million. Permits a grant for a project that costs more if all other bridge projects on the commissioner's priority list with a total project costs under \$7 million have been fully funded.
- 9 **Crude oil and hazardous materials rail safety account.** Establishes a hazardous materials rail safety program and two accounts—one in the bond proceeds fund and one in the special revenue fund. Identifies uses of funds under the program (limited to capital costs of improvements). Provides that counties, cities, and towns are eligible recipients of grants. Sets grant making criteria.
- 10 **Water infrastructure funding program.** Changes the WIF program to cover drinking water as well as wastewater infrastructure. Increases the maximum grants amounts from \$4 million to \$5 million per project, and from \$15,000 to \$20,000 per existing connection. Establishes a funding formula for drinking water projects that is based on the affordability threshold used for the federal drinking water fund. Strikes obsolete language.

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- 11 **Point source implementation grants.** Increases the maximum grants from \$3 million to \$7 million and increases the share the grants cover from 50 percent to 80 percent of project costs.
- 12 **Other uses of fund (drinking water revolving fund) (PFA).** Technical. Provides a cross-reference to section with criteria (new WIF language in section 446A.072) and strikes criteria in this section
- 13 **Bonding authority (PFA).** Increases the PFA's authority to issue bonds from \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion in outstanding debt.
- 14 **Additional authorization (MHFA).** Allows the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to issue up to \$15 million more in housing infrastructure bonds originally authorized in 2014 that can be paid for within the existing annual general fund appropriation for debt service.
- 15 **Additional authorization (MHFA).** Allows the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to issue up to \$5 million more in housing infrastructure bonds originally authorized in 2015 that can be paid for within the existing annual general fund appropriation for debt service.
- 16 **Additional authorization (MHFA).** Allows the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to issue up to \$35 million more in housing infrastructure bonds.
- 17 **Additional appropriation (MHFA).** Appropriates from the general fund up to \$1,250,000 per year to the MHFA to pay debt service on the \$35 million authorization.
- 18 **Systemwide redevelopment, reuse, or demolition (DHS).** Reauthorizes the remaining amount from a 2006 appropriation for regional treatment centers, estimated to be \$1,991,456.
- 19 **Dam repair, reconstruction, and removal.** Exempts the 2012 appropriation for repair of the Lanesboro dam from any match requirement.
- 20 **Phillips Community Pool.** Extends availability of the 2012 appropriation for the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board renovation of the Phillips Community Pool to December 31, 2022.
- 21 **West St. Paul – River to River Greenway.** Modifies the project description to allow for a grade-separated crossing (not specifically a bridge) and updates the name of the project.
- 22 **Local road improvement fund grants.** Amends the 2015 appropriation for the Willmar Wye to allow the money to be used for local roads in conjunction with the project instead of specifically a rail grade separation.
- 23 **Richfield – 77th Street underpass.** Modifies the 2015 appropriation for the project to allow the money to be used first for right-of-way acquisition and then if money remains, to be used for construction.
- 24 **National Sports Center; lease.** Permits the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission (MASC) to lease to the Spring Lake Park school district state bond-financed property at the National Sports Center in Blaine. The lease may be for up to 99 years. Permits the tenant to make capital improvements in lieu of rent. Appropriates rent payments made to the MASC.
- 25 **Revisor's instruction.** Technical, related to the repeal of section 123A.446.

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- 26** **Repealer.** Repeals an obsolete codified bond sale authorization for the cooperative secondary facilities grant program. The section was last used to authorize a bond sale for the program in 1989 (and all bonds authorized have been issued). Repeals two subdivisions in the PFA statutes that are also stricken in the body of the bill.
- 27** **Effective date.** Effective the day after enactment unless otherwise specified in the article.