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Overview

This bill includes the fiscal year 2019 appropriation recommendations from the environment and natural resources trust fund (a constitutionally dedicated trust fund funded by proceeds from the Minnesota State Lottery). The bill is based upon the recommendations approved by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR).

Section

1 Appropriations. Technical.

2 Minnesota resources.

Subd. 1. Total appropriation. Provides a total appropriation of \$45,828,000 in fiscal year 2019 from the environment and natural resources trust fund.

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 \$7,293,000 in fiscal year 2019.

Subd. 4. Water resources. Provides a total appropriation for water resources projects of \$5,275,000 in fiscal year 2019.

Subd. 5. Technical assistance, outreach, and environmental education. Provides a total appropriation for technical assistance, outreach, and environmental education projects of \$5,168,000 in fiscal year 2019.

Section

Subd. 6. Aquatic and terrestrial invasive species. Provides a total appropriation for invasive species projects of \$5,760,000 in fiscal year 2019.

Subd. 7. Air quality and renewable energy. Provides a total appropriation for air quality and renewable energy projects of \$1,200,000 in fiscal year 2019.

Subd. 8. Methods to protect or restore land, water, and habitat. Provides a total appropriation for projects for protection, restoration, and enhancement methods of \$3,119,000 in fiscal year 2019.

Subd. 9. Land acquisition, habitat, and recreation. Provides a total appropriation for land acquisition projects of \$17,439,000 in fiscal year 2019.

Subd. 10. Emerging issues account. Provides \$439,000 for an emerging issues account.

Subd. 11. Wastewater treatment recommendations. Requires the LCCMR to consider recommending up to \$10,000,000 for wastewater infrastructure to match bond appropriations exceeding \$10,000,000 and recommending up to five percent of the corpus of the trust fund be used for loans to the Public Facilities Authority (PFA) for loans to cities and towns with populations under 5,000.

Subd. 12. Contract agreement reimbursement. Provides a total appropriation of \$135,000 for contraction administration expenses of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Subds. 13 to 20. Provides project requirements that apply to all recipients. The LCCMR recommends similar requirements each year, which include: 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. Also allows previous appropriations set to expire to be extended.

- 3 **Exceptions.** Amends § 116P.08, subd. 2. Modifies prohibitions on using the trust fund for municipal water pollution control to make the prohibition apply only to municipalities with a population of 5,000 or more.
- 4 **Loans authorized.** Amends § 116P.12, subd. 1. Updates the calculation for the rate of interest that may be charged on loans made from the principal of the trust fund.
- 5 **Land acquisition for habitat and recreation.** Amends a previous appropriation for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) to allow a portion to be used for establishing a monitoring and enforcement account.