

AN ACT

relating to natural resources; appropriating money from environment and natural resources trust fund; modifying provisions for Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, sections 116P.05, subdivision 2; 116P.08, subdivisions 5, 6, 7; 116P.09, subdivisions 6, 8.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. APPROPRIATIONS.

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this act. The appropriations are from the environment and natural resources trust fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2016" and "2017" used in this act mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, or June 30, 2017, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2016. "The second year" is fiscal year 2017. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

| <u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>         |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| <u>Available for the Year</u> |             |
| <u>Ending June 30</u>         |             |
| <u>2016</u>                   | <u>2017</u> |

Sec. 2. MINNESOTA RESOURCES.

|   |             |                   |           |            |
|---|-------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|
| <u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u> | <u>\$</u>   | <u>46,383,000</u> | <u>\$</u> | <u>-0-</u> |
| <u>Appropriations by Fund</u>             |             |                   |           |            |
| <u>2016</u>                               | <u>2017</u> |                   |           |            |

|      |  |                   |            |
|------|--|-------------------|------------|
| 2.1  | <u>Environment and</u>                                   |                   |            |
| 2.2  | <u>natural resources</u>                                 |                   |            |
| 2.3  | <u>trust fund</u>  | <u>46,324,000</u> | <u>-0-</u> |
| 2.4  | <u>Great Lakes</u>                                       |                   |            |
| 2.5  | <u>protection account</u>                                | <u>59,000</u>     | <u>-0-</u> |
| 2.6  | <u>The amounts that may be spent for each</u>            |                   |            |
| 2.7  | <u>purpose are specified in the following</u>            |                   |            |
| 2.8  | <u>subdivisions.</u>                                     |                   |            |
| 2.9  | <u>Appropriations are available for two</u>              |                   |            |
| 2.10 | <u>years beginning July 1, 2015, unless</u>              |                   |            |
| 2.11 | <u>otherwise stated in the appropriation. Any</u>        |                   |            |
| 2.12 | <u>unencumbered balance remaining in the</u>             |                   |            |
| 2.13 | <u>first year does not cancel and is available</u>       |                   |            |
| 2.14 | <u>for the second year or until the end of the</u>       |                   |            |
| 2.15 | <u>appropriation.</u>                                    |                   |            |
| 2.16 | <u>Subd. 2. Definition</u>                               |                   |            |
| 2.17 | <u>"Trust fund" means the Minnesota</u>                  |                   |            |
| 2.18 | <u>environment and natural resources trust fund</u>      |                   |            |
| 2.19 | <u>referred to in Minnesota Statutes, section</u>        |                   |            |
| 2.20 | <u>116P.02, subdivision 6.</u>                           |                   |            |
| 2.21 | <u>Subd. 3. Foundational Natural Resource Data</u>       |                   |            |
| 2.22 | <u>and Information</u>                                   | <u>12,932,000</u> | <u>-0-</u> |
| 2.23 | <u>(a) County Geologic Atlases - Part A</u>              |                   |            |
| 2.24 | <u>\$2,040,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u> |                   |            |
| 2.25 | <u>to the Board of Regents of the University</u>         |                   |            |
| 2.26 | <u>of Minnesota for the Minnesota Geological</u>         |                   |            |
| 2.27 | <u>Survey to continue acceleration of the</u>            |                   |            |
| 2.28 | <u>production of county geologic atlases for</u>         |                   |            |
| 2.29 | <u>the purpose of sustainable management of</u>          |                   |            |
| 2.30 | <u>surface water and groundwater resources.</u>          |                   |            |
| 2.31 | <u>This appropriation is to complete Part A of</u>       |                   |            |
| 2.32 | <u>county geologic atlases, which focuses on the</u>     |                   |            |
| 2.33 | <u>properties and distribution of earth materials</u>    |                   |            |
| 2.34 | <u>in order to define aquifer boundaries and the</u>     |                   |            |
| 2.35 | <u>connection of aquifers to the land surface and</u>    |                   |            |
| 2.36 | <u>surface water resources. This appropriation</u>       |                   |            |

is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
time the project must be completed and final  
products delivered.

**(b) County Geologic Atlases - Part B**

\$2,000,000 the first year is from the trust  
fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
to continue acceleration of the production of  
county geologic atlases for the purpose of  
sustainable management of surface water and  
groundwater resources. This appropriation  
is to complete Part B of county geologic  
atlases, which focuses on the properties  
and distribution of subsurface water found  
within geologic formations mapped in Part  
A in order to characterize the potential  
yield of aquifers and their sensitivity  
to contamination. This appropriation is  
available until June 30, 2018, by which time  
the project must be completed and final  
products delivered.

**(c) Minnesota Biological Survey**

\$2,450,000 the first year is from the  
trust fund to the commissioner of natural  
resources for continuation of the Minnesota  
biological survey to provide a foundation  
for conserving biological diversity by  
systematically collecting, interpreting,  
monitoring, and delivering data on plant and  
animal distribution and ecology, native plant  
communities, and functional landscapes.

**(d) Minnesota Biodiversity Atlas for**  
**Enhanced Natural Resource Management**

\$340,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
to the Board of Regents of the University of  
Minnesota for the Bell Museum of Natural

4.1 History to create a publicly accessible, online  
4.2 tool and repository that will electronically  
4.3 integrate over 600,000 existing biodiversity  
4.4 records, 300,000 existing images, and future  
4.5 data and associated imagery pertaining to  
4.6 Minnesota wildlife, plant, and fungi species  
4.7 in order to enhance research, guide field  
4.8 surveys, and inform conservation planning.

4.9 This appropriation is available until June  
4.10 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
4.11 completed and final products delivered.

4.12 **(e) Updating the National Wetland**  
4.13 **Inventory for Minnesota - Phase V**

4.14 \$1,500,000 the first year is from the  
4.15 trust fund to the commissioner of natural  
4.16 resources to continue to update and enhance  
4.17 wetland inventory maps for Minnesota. This  
4.18 appropriation is available until June 30,  
4.19 2018, by which time the project must be  
4.20 completed and final products delivered.

4.21 **(f) Creating a Statewide Wetland Bird**  
4.22 **Monitoring Program**

4.23 \$146,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
4.24 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
4.25 an agreement with Audubon Minnesota to  
4.26 develop a statewide wetland bird monitoring  
4.27 program to enable long-term monitoring of  
4.28 the status of wetland birds and the health of  
4.29 their wetland habitats. This appropriation  
4.30 is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
4.31 time the project must be completed and final  
4.32 products delivered.

4.33 **(g) Minnesota Native Bee Atlas**

4.34 \$790,000 the first year is from the trust  
4.35 fund to the Board of Regents of the

University of Minnesota to supplement  
and enhance existing bee survey efforts by  
engaging citizens in helping to document the  
distribution and phenology of wild Minnesota  
bees and integrating data from all related  
bee survey efforts into a single publicly  
accessible, online tool and repository. This  
appropriation is available until June 30,  
2019, by which time the project must be  
completed and final products delivered.

**(h) Reintroduction and Interpretation of**  
**Bison in Minnesota State Parks**

\$600,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
to the commissioner of natural resources to  
preserve American bison by reintroducing  
bison to Minneopa State Park and provide  
interpretive learning opportunities at Blue  
Mounds and Minneopa State Parks. This  
appropriation is available until June 30,  
2018, by which time the project must be  
completed and final products delivered.

**(i) Endangered Bats, White-Nose**  
**Syndrome, and Forest Habitat**

\$1,250,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
to the commissioner of natural resources in  
cooperation with the University of Minnesota  
and the United States Forest Service to  
survey and radio-track endangered bats to  
define and understand summer forest habitat  
use in order to minimize forestry impacts  
and mitigate white-nose syndrome disease  
impacts. This appropriation is available until  
June 30, 2018, by which time the project must  
be completed and final products delivered.

6.1 (j) Assessing Contaminants in Minnesota

6.2 Loons and Pelicans - Phase III

6.3 \$141,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
6.4 to the commissioner of natural resources  
6.5 to continue to assess the potential impact  
6.6 of petroleum, dispersants, and heavy metal  
6.7 contaminants from the Deepwater Horizon oil  
6.8 spill in the Gulf of Mexico on the wintering  
6.9 habitat of Minnesota's common loons  
6.10 and white pelicans using radiotelemetry,  
6.11 geolocators, and contaminant analysis.

6.12 (k) Movement and Seasonal Habitat Use  
6.13 of Minnesota Elk

6.14 \$200,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
6.15 to the commissioner of natural resources  
6.16 to collect biological information about  
6.17 Minnesota elk, including movements and  
6.18 habitat use to enable long-term, sustainable  
6.19 management. This appropriation is  
6.20 contingent on a \$50,000 match from state  
6.21 or nonstate sources. This appropriation is  
6.22 available until June 30, 2018, by which time  
6.23 the project must be completed and final  
6.24 products delivered.

6.25 (l) Genetic and Camera Techniques to  
6.26 Estimate Carnivore Populations

6.27 \$200,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
6.28 to the Board of Regents of the University  
6.29 of Minnesota – Duluth for the Natural  
6.30 Resources Research Institute to use genetic  
6.31 sampling and remote cameras to improve  
6.32 monitoring of distributions and estimate  
6.33 population sizes of carnivore species.

6.34 (m) Aquatic and Terrestrial Reptile Habitat

\$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
to the commissioner of natural resources  
for an agreement with the University of  
St. Thomas in cooperation with the Three  
Rivers Park District to analyze the aquatic  
and terrestrial habitat for certain reptile  
species in urban lakes and to make specific  
recommendations to protect and enhance the  
habitat. This appropriation is available until  
June 30, 2019, by which time the project must  
be completed and final products delivered.

**(n) Digitization of Historic Gullion Ruffed**  
**Grouse Research**

\$75,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
to the commissioner of natural resources for  
an agreement with Central Lakes College  
to preserve the Gordon Gullion ruffed  
grouse data sets as permanent digital data  
files in order to improve accessibility to  
the information and inform forest wildlife  
conservation policies and practices.

**(o) Effects of Grazing Versus Fire for**  
**Prairie Management**

\$414,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
to the Board of Regents of the University  
of Minnesota to compare the effects of  
conservation grazing and prescribed fire  
on tallgrass prairie plants and pollinators  
in Minnesota in order to inform and  
improve land management practices. This  
appropriation is available until June 30,  
2018, by which time the project must be  
completed and final products delivered.

**(p) Assessing Ecological Impact of St.**  
**Anthony Falls Lock Closure**

8.1 \$125,000 the first year is from the trust fund to  
8.2 the commissioner of natural resources for an  
8.3 agreement with the Minneapolis Riverfront  
8.4 Partnership to study the impact of altered  
8.5 river flow due to closure of the Upper Lock  
8.6 on the Mississippi River at St. Anthony Falls  
8.7 on the physical and biological characteristics  
8.8 of the river between the Coon Rapids Dam  
8.9 and Lock and Dam No. 1 in order to inform  
8.10 future river restoration efforts.

8.11 **(q) Foundational Dataset Characterizing**  
8.12 **Historic Forest Disturbance Impacts**

8.13 \$200,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
8.14 to the Board of Regents of the University  
8.15 of Minnesota to quantify forest disturbance  
8.16 impacts over the past forty years on water  
8.17 quality, wildlife demographics, and wood  
8.18 fiber supply in order to identify management  
8.19 strategies that better respond to disturbance  
8.20 impacts and improve and sustain forest  
8.21 resources. This appropriation is available  
8.22 until June 30, 2018, by which time the  
8.23 project must be completed and final products  
8.24 delivered.

8.25 **(r) Hydrologic Effects of Contemporary**  
8.26 **Forest Practices in Minnesota**

8.27 \$150,000 the first year is from the trust  
8.28 fund to the Board of Regents of the  
8.29 University of Minnesota to install hydrologic  
8.30 monitoring stations to collect water quantity  
8.31 and quality data from lands managed for  
8.32 timber production to better understand the  
8.33 relationship between harvest practices and  
8.34 water resources and related responses to  
8.35 changing climate and other disturbance



9.1 factors in order to inform forest management  
9.2 practices. This appropriation is available  
9.3 until June 30, 2018, by which time the  
9.4 project must be completed and final products  
9.5 delivered.

9.6 **(s) Habitat Mitigation for Goblin Fern**  
9.7 **Conservation**

9.8 \$61,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
9.9 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
9.10 an agreement with the Leech Lake Band of  
9.11 Ojibwe to examine goblin fern populations, a  
9.12 threatened species in Minnesota, in relation  
9.13 to habitat degradation and to develop  
9.14 long-term habitat mitigation and species  
9.15 conservation strategies. This appropriation  
9.16 is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
9.17 time the project must be completed and final  
9.18 products delivered.

9.19 **Subd. 4. Water Resources** 3,065,000 -0-

9.20 **(a) Understanding Water Scarcity,**  
9.21 **Threats, and Values to Improve**  
9.22 **Management**

9.23 \$234,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
9.24 to the Board of Regents of the University of  
9.25 Minnesota to model and map statewide water  
9.26 scarcity and abundance; assess water-related  
9.27 risks to industry, municipalities, and  
9.28 ecosystems; and quantify the economic  
9.29 values of changes in water quality and  
9.30 quantity in order to inform long-term water  
9.31 sustainability strategies. This appropriation  
9.32 is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
9.33 time the project must be completed and final  
9.34 products delivered.

10.1 **(b) Biofilm Technology for Water Nutrient**  
10.2 **Removal**

10.3 \$281,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
10.4 to the Board of Regents of the University  
10.5 of Minnesota to develop a simulated lichen  
10.6 biofilm system that can be used to remove  
10.7 pollutants and recycle nutrients from storm  
10.8 water runoff and polluted lakes, ponds, and  
10.9 lagoons. This appropriation is subject to  
10.10 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This  
10.11 appropriation is available until June 30,  
10.12 2018, by which time the project must be  
10.13 completed and final products delivered.

10.14 **(c) Biological Consequences of Septic**  
10.15 **Pollution in Minnesota Lakes**

10.16 \$364,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
10.17 to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota  
10.18 State Colleges and Universities system for  
10.19 St. Cloud State University to assess the  
10.20 presence of possible sources of contaminants  
10.21 of emerging concern in Minnesota lakes  
10.22 in order to determine their effects on fish  
10.23 health, understand the potential contribution  
10.24 from septic systems, and inform options  
10.25 for remediation and prevention to protect  
10.26 Minnesota lakes from these contaminants in  
10.27 the future. This appropriation is available  
10.28 until June 30, 2018, by which time the  
10.29 project must be completed and final products  
10.30 delivered.

10.31 **(d) Preventing Phosphorous from Entering**  
10.32 **Water Resources through Drain Tiles**

10.33 \$505,000 the first year is from the trust  
10.34 fund to the Board of Regents of the  
10.35 University of Minnesota to develop a new

11.1 nanocomposite material made from biomass  
11.2 that is designed to adsorb phosphorus,  
11.3 nitrogen, and pesticides from storm water  
11.4 and drain tile runoff discharge for recycling  
11.5 back to agricultural lands. This appropriation  
11.6 is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section  
11.7 116P.10.

11.8 **(e) Southeast Minnesota Cover Crop and**  
11.9 **Soil Health Initiatives**

11.10 \$253,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
11.11 to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to  
11.12 promote cover crops as a means of protecting  
11.13 soil and water quality in southeastern  
11.14 Minnesota through training and education  
11.15 for local practitioners, economic analysis of  
11.16 implementation, and on-farm demonstration  
11.17 sites. This effort must be coordinated with  
11.18 the University of Minnesota Forever Green  
11.19 Initiative. This appropriation is available  
11.20 until June 30, 2018, by which time the  
11.21 project must be completed and final products  
11.22 delivered.

11.23 **(f) Southeast Minnesota Subsurface**  
11.24 **Drainage Impacts on Groundwater**  
11.25 **Recharge**

11.26 \$488,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
11.27 to the commissioner of natural resources  
11.28 for an agreement with the United States  
11.29 Geological Survey to assess the relationship  
11.30 between agricultural drainage and water  
11.31 flow within the unique karst geology of  
11.32 southeast Minnesota to characterize the  
11.33 potential impacts of drainage on groundwater  
11.34 recharge and groundwater sustainability in  
11.35 the region. This appropriation is not subject

12.1 to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This  
12.2 appropriation is available until June 30,  
12.3 2019, by which time the project must be  
12.4 completed and final products delivered.

12.5 **(g) Using Hydroacoustics to Monitor**  
12.6 **Sediment in Minnesota Rivers**

12.7 \$455,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
12.8 to the commissioner of natural resources  
12.9 for an agreement with the United States  
12.10 Geological Survey to install hydroacoustic  
12.11 equipment on the lower Minnesota and  
12.12 Mississippi Rivers to improve measurement  
12.13 and monitoring accuracy for suspended  
12.14 sediment and enhance ongoing sediment  
12.15 reduction efforts by state, federal, and local  
12.16 agencies. This appropriation is not subject  
12.17 to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This  
12.18 appropriation is available until June 30,  
12.19 2019, by which time the project must be  
12.20 completed and final products delivered.

12.21 **(h) Assessment of Irrigation Efficiencies in**  
12.22 **Benton County**

12.23 \$431,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
12.24 to the commissioner of natural resources  
12.25 for an agreement with Benton Soil and  
12.26 Water Conservation District to develop and  
12.27 implement a decision support system to  
12.28 increase irrigation efficiencies and provide  
12.29 outreach on irrigation best management  
12.30 practices. Software developed with this  
12.31 appropriation must be available in the public  
12.32 domain. Project efforts should be coordinated  
12.33 with the Department of Natural Resources.  
12.34 This appropriation is available until June

|       |   |                  |            |
|-------|---|------------------|------------|
| 13.1  | <u>30, 2019, by which time the project must be</u>        |                  |            |
| 13.2  | <u>completed and final products delivered.</u>            |                  |            |
| 13.3  | <b><u>(i) Shoreview Water Consumption and</u></b>         |                  |            |
| 13.4  | <b><u>Groundwater Awareness Project</u></b>               |                  |            |
| 13.5  | <u>\$54,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>     |                  |            |
| 13.6  | <u>to the commissioner of natural resources for</u>       |                  |            |
| 13.7  | <u>an agreement with the city of Shoreview</u>            |                  |            |
| 13.8  | <u>to provide biweekly water consumption</u>              |                  |            |
| 13.9  | <u>data to at least 400 residential households</u>        |                  |            |
| 13.10 | <u>for a two-year period to determine whether</u>         |                  |            |
| 13.11 | <u>additional groundwater can be conserved</u>            |                  |            |
| 13.12 | <u>with greater awareness of consumption data.</u>        |                  |            |
| 13.13 | <u>This appropriation is available until June</u>         |                  |            |
| 13.14 | <u>30, 2018, by which time the project must be</u>        |                  |            |
| 13.15 | <u>completed and final products delivered.</u>            |                  |            |
| 13.16 | <b><u>Subd. 5. Environmental Education</u></b>            | <u>1,004,000</u> | <u>-0-</u> |
| 13.17 | <b><u>(a) Trap Shooting Sports Facility Grants</u></b>    |                  |            |
| 13.18 | <u>\$132,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>    |                  |            |
| 13.19 | <u>to the commissioner of natural resources</u>           |                  |            |
| 13.20 | <u>for trap shooting sports facility grants under</u>     |                  |            |
| 13.21 | <u>Minnesota Statutes, section 87A.10.</u>                |                  |            |
| 13.22 | <b><u>(b) Connecting Students with Watersheds</u></b>     |                  |            |
| 13.23 | <b><u>through Hands-On Learning</u></b>                   |                  |            |
| 13.24 | <u>\$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund to</u> |                  |            |
| 13.25 | <u>the commissioner of natural resources for an</u>       |                  |            |
| 13.26 | <u>agreement with Minnesota Trout Unlimited</u>           |                  |            |
| 13.27 | <u>to provide hands-on learning focused on</u>            |                  |            |
| 13.28 | <u>water quality, groundwater, aquatic life,</u>          |                  |            |
| 13.29 | <u>and watershed health stewardship. This</u>             |                  |            |
| 13.30 | <u>appropriation is available until June 30,</u>          |                  |            |
| 13.31 | <u>2018, by which time the project must be</u>            |                  |            |
| 13.32 | <u>completed and final products delivered.</u>            |                  |            |
| 13.33 | <b><u>(c) Zumbro River Watershed Recreational</u></b>     |                  |            |
| 13.34 | <b><u>Learning Stewardship Sites</u></b>                  |                  |            |

14.1 \$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
14.2 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
14.3 an agreement with the Zumbro Watershed  
14.4 Partnership to develop at least six recreational  
14.5 and educational sites on the Zumbro River  
14.6 with water quality demonstration elements  
14.7 and interpretative signage designed to  
14.8 encourage adoption of water protection  
14.9 practices. No more than 15 percent of this  
14.10 appropriation may be spent on site and  
14.11 construction consultation, planning, and  
14.12 design. Any plantings or restoration activities  
14.13 conducted with this appropriation must use  
14.14 native plant species according to the Board of  
14.15 Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation  
14.16 establishment and enhancement guidelines.  
14.17 This appropriation is available until June  
14.18 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
14.19 completed and final products delivered.

14.20 **(d) Students Engaging Local Watersheds**  
14.21 **Using Mobile Technologies**

14.22 \$147,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
14.23 to the commissioner of natural resources  
14.24 for an agreement with Twin Cities Public  
14.25 Television to deliver an experiential,  
14.26 project-based educational program using  
14.27 mobile technologies to empower at least 200  
14.28 middle school students in 4-H programs to  
14.29 engage in understanding and protecting local  
14.30 water resources.

14.31 **(e) Mississippi River Water Journey**  
14.32 **Camps**

14.33 \$25,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
14.34 to the Board of Regents of the University of  
14.35 Minnesota to design and pilot two week-long

|       |  |                  |            |
|-------|--|------------------|------------|
| 15.1  | <u>summer camps for youth ages 6 to 11 focused</u>       |                  |            |
| 15.2  | <u>around clean water and the Mississippi</u>            |                  |            |
| 15.3  | <u>River and designed to get children outdoors</u>       |                  |            |
| 15.4  | <u>exploring and engaged with the natural</u>            |                  |            |
| 15.5  | <u>environment and creating educational</u>              |                  |            |
| 15.6  | <u>materials to help their communities protect</u>       |                  |            |
| 15.7  | <u>water quality.</u>                                    |                  |            |
| 15.8  | <b><u>Subd. 6. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive</u></b>  |                  |            |
| 15.9  | <b><u>Species</u></b>                                    | <u>6,071,000</u> | <u>-0-</u> |
| 15.10 | <b><u>(a) Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants</u></b>  |                  |            |
| 15.11 | <b><u>and Pests Center</u></b>                           |                  |            |
| 15.12 | <u>\$5,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u> |                  |            |
| 15.13 | <u>to the Board of Regents of the University</u>         |                  |            |
| 15.14 | <u>of Minnesota for the Invasive Terrestrial</u>         |                  |            |
| 15.15 | <u>Plants and Pests Center established in Laws</u>       |                  |            |
| 15.16 | <u>2014, chapter 312, article 13, section 44,</u>        |                  |            |
| 15.17 | <u>to conduct research to prevent, minimize,</u>         |                  |            |
| 15.18 | <u>and mitigate the threats and impacts posed</u>        |                  |            |
| 15.19 | <u>by invasive plants, pathogens, and pests to</u>       |                  |            |
| 15.20 | <u>the state's prairies, forests, wetlands, and</u>      |                  |            |
| 15.21 | <u>agricultural resources. This appropriation</u>        |                  |            |
| 15.22 | <u>is available until June 30, 2023, by which</u>        |                  |            |
| 15.23 | <u>time the project must be completed and final</u>      |                  |            |
| 15.24 | <u>products delivered.</u>                               |                  |            |
| 15.25 | <b><u>(b) Emerald Ash Borer Ecological and</u></b>       |                  |            |
| 15.26 | <b><u>Hydrological Impacts - Phase II</u></b>            |                  |            |
| 15.27 | <u>\$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>   |                  |            |
| 15.28 | <u>to the Board of Regents of the University</u>         |                  |            |
| 15.29 | <u>of Minnesota to assess the potential impacts</u>      |                  |            |
| 15.30 | <u>of emerald ash borer on Minnesota black</u>           |                  |            |
| 15.31 | <u>ash forests and quantify potential impacts</u>        |                  |            |
| 15.32 | <u>on native forest vegetation, invasive species</u>     |                  |            |
| 15.33 | <u>spread, and hydrology. This appropriation</u>         |                  |            |
| 15.34 | <u>is available until June 30, 2020, by which</u>        |                  |            |

16.1 time the project must be completed and final  
16.2 products delivered.

16.3 **(c) Biological Control of Canada Thistle**

16.4 \$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
16.5 to the Board of Regents of the University of  
16.6 Minnesota to develop a biological control for  
16.7 Canada thistle, an invasive plant species in  
16.8 Minnesota. This appropriation is available  
16.9 until June 30, 2018, by which time the  
16.10 project must be completed and final products  
16.11 delivered.

16.12 **(d) Preventing New Disease of Pines in**  
16.13 **Minnesota**

16.14 \$371,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
16.15 to the Board of Regents of the University of  
16.16 Minnesota to establish early detection for  
16.17 heterobasidion, an invasive root rot fungus,  
16.18 and develop efforts to prevent its spread  
16.19 and reduce its impact. This appropriation  
16.20 is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
16.21 time the project must be completed and final  
16.22 products delivered.

16.23 **Subd. 7. Air Quality, Climate Change, and**  
16.24 **Renewable Energy**

2,268,000

-0-

16.25 **(a) Renewable and Sustainable Fertilizers**  
16.26 **Produced Locally**

16.27 \$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
16.28 to the Board of Regents of the University  
16.29 of Minnesota for the Morris West Central  
16.30 Research and Outreach Center and Twin  
16.31 Cities Campus to develop and demonstrate  
16.32 new technologies aimed at enabling  
16.33 renewable and sustainable production of  
16.34 ammonia for fertilizer in a localized manner.  
16.35 This appropriation is subject to Minnesota



Statutes, section 116P.10. This appropriation  
is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
time the project must be completed and final  
products delivered.

**(b) Reducing Emissions from Open**  
**Burning through Biomass Gasification**

\$268,000 the first year is from the trust  
fund to the Board of Regents of the  
University of Minnesota in cooperation with  
the Department of Natural Resources to  
characterize and promote distributed biomass  
gasification of wood waste as a means for  
producing renewable and sustainable energy  
in rural areas through a demonstration at the  
Department of Natural Resources regional  
office facility in New Ulm.

**(c) Building Deconstruction to Reduce**  
**Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Solid**  
**Waste**

\$845,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
to the commissioner of natural resources for  
an agreement with Better Futures Minnesota  
in cooperation with the Northwest Indian  
Opportunities Industrialization Center  
and \$155,000 the first year is from the  
trust fund to the Board of Regents of the  
University of Minnesota – Duluth for the  
Natural Resources Research Institute to  
develop and test a model for implementing  
building deconstruction and material reuse  
as a competitive alternative to demolition  
for the purpose of reducing greenhouse  
gas emissions, reducing landfill waste, and  
providing job training. The project report  
must quantify and document greenhouse gas

|       |  |                  |            |
|-------|--|------------------|------------|
| 18.1  | <u>emissions reductions resulting from specific</u>      |                  |            |
| 18.2  | <u>deconstruction techniques and materials</u>           |                  |            |
| 18.3  | <u>reuses.</u>   |                  |            |
| 18.4  | <b><u>Subd. 8. Methods to Protect, Restore, and</u></b>  |                  |            |
| 18.5  | <b><u>Enhance Land, Water, and Habitat</u></b>           | <u>4,646,000</u> | <u>-0-</u> |
| 18.6  | <u>Appropriations by Fund</u>                            |                  |            |
| 18.7  | <u>Environment and</u>                                   |                  |            |
| 18.8  | <u>natural resources</u>                                 |                  |            |
| 18.9  | <u>trust fund</u>  | <u>4,587,000</u> | <u>-0-</u> |
| 18.10 | <u>Great Lakes</u>                                       |                  |            |
| 18.11 | <u>protection account</u>                                | <u>59,000</u>    | <u>-0-</u> |
| 18.12 | <b><u>(a) Prioritizing Future Management of</u></b>      |                  |            |
| 18.13 | <b><u>North Shore Trout Streams</u></b>                  |                  |            |
| 18.14 | <u>\$357,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>   |                  |            |
| 18.15 | <u>and \$59,000 the first year is from the Great</u>     |                  |            |
| 18.16 | <u>Lakes protection account to the Board of</u>          |                  |            |
| 18.17 | <u>Regents of the University of Minnesota –</u>          |                  |            |
| 18.18 | <u>Duluth for the Natural Resources Research</u>         |                  |            |
| 18.19 | <u>Institute to identify key areas in North Shore</u>    |                  |            |
| 18.20 | <u>streams that supply the cold groundwater</u>          |                  |            |
| 18.21 | <u>essential to sustaining trout fisheries, in order</u> |                  |            |
| 18.22 | <u>to focus habitat restoration, protection, and</u>     |                  |            |
| 18.23 | <u>management efforts on the areas that are</u>          |                  |            |
| 18.24 | <u>most essential for long-term stream health</u>        |                  |            |
| 18.25 | <u>and sustainability. This appropriation is</u>         |                  |            |
| 18.26 | <u>available until June 30, 2018, by which time</u>      |                  |            |
| 18.27 | <u>the project must be completed and final</u>           |                  |            |
| 18.28 | <u>products delivered.</u>                               |                  |            |
| 18.29 | <b><u>(b) Propagating Native Plants and</u></b>          |                  |            |
| 18.30 | <b><u>Restoring Diverse Habitats</u></b>                 |                  |            |
| 18.31 | <u>\$495,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>   |                  |            |
| 18.32 | <u>to the commissioner of natural resources</u>          |                  |            |
| 18.33 | <u>for an agreement with the Martin County</u>           |                  |            |
| 18.34 | <u>Soil and Water Conservation District for a</u>        |                  |            |
| 18.35 | <u>cooperative 13-county effort by Blue Earth,</u>       |                  |            |
| 18.36 | <u>Brown, Cottonwood, Crow Wing, Faribault,</u>          |                  |            |

19.1 Freeborn, Jackson, Lake, Le Sueur, Martin,  
19.2 Nicollet, Waseca, and Watonwan Counties to  
19.3 protect and expand native forest and prairie  
19.4 habitat for species in greatest conservation  
19.5 need in four regions of the state through  
19.6 collection and propagation of local ecotype  
19.7 native plants, habitat restoration efforts, and  
19.8 educational outreach. This appropriation  
19.9 is available until June 30, 2020, by which  
19.10 time the project must be completed and final  
19.11 products delivered.

19.12 **(c) Preserving and Protecting Minnesota**  
19.13 **Native Orchid Species**

19.14 \$167,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
19.15 to the Board of Regents of the University  
19.16 of Minnesota for the Minnesota Landscape  
19.17 Arboretum for propagation and cultivation  
19.18 research to enable long-term conservation  
19.19 of at least 15 selected species of the 48  
19.20 native orchid species in Minnesota. This  
19.21 appropriation is available until June 30,  
19.22 2018, by which time the project must be  
19.23 completed and final products delivered.

19.24 **(d) Acceleration of Minnesota**  
19.25 **Conservation Assistance – Final Phase**

19.26 \$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust  
19.27 fund to the Board of Water and Soil  
19.28 Resources for the final phase of a pilot  
19.29 program to provide grants to soil and water  
19.30 conservation districts and other units of local  
19.31 and state government for employment of  
19.32 staff to provide technical assistance to secure  
19.33 enrollment and retention of private lands  
19.34 in federal and state conservation programs.  
19.35 This appropriation is available until June

20.1 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
20.2 completed and final products delivered.

20.3 **(e) Metro Conservation Corridors -**  
20.4 **Phase VIII Prairie, Forest, and Savanna**  
20.5 **Restoration**

20.6 \$276,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
20.7 to the commissioner of natural resources  
20.8 for an agreement with the Friends of the  
20.9 Mississippi River for Phase VIII of the  
20.10 Metro Conservation Corridors partnership  
20.11 to conduct restoration activities on at least  
20.12 195 acres of forest and savanna and at least  
20.13 60 acres of prairie to preserve and increase  
20.14 wildlife habitat in the metropolitan area, as  
20.15 defined under Minnesota Statutes, section  
20.16 473.121, subdivision 2, and portions of the  
20.17 surrounding counties. Expenditures are  
20.18 limited to the identified project corridor  
20.19 areas as defined in the work plan. A list  
20.20 of proposed restorations must be provided  
20.21 as part of the required work plan. This  
20.22 appropriation is available until June 30,  
20.23 2018, by which time the project must be  
20.24 completed and final products delivered.

20.25 **(f) Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase**  
20.26 **VIII Enhancing Restoration Techniques**  
20.27 **for Improved Climate Resilience and**  
20.28 **Pollinator Conservation**

20.29 \$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
20.30 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
20.31 an agreement with Great River Greening  
20.32 for Phase VIII of the Metro Conservation  
20.33 Corridors partnership to pilot and evaluate  
20.34 innovative restoration techniques aimed  
20.35 at improving the resilience of bur oak

21.1 communities to changing climate conditions  
21.2 and enhancing prairie management to benefit  
21.3 pollinators with the help and engagement  
21.4 of citizen volunteers. Expenditures on  
21.5 restoration efforts are limited to the identified  
21.6 project corridor areas as defined in the work  
21.7 plan. A list of proposed restorations must be  
21.8 provided as part of the required work plan.  
21.9 This appropriation is available until June 30,  
21.10 2018, by which point the project must be  
21.11 completed and final products delivered.

21.12 **(g) Minnesota State University Moorhead**  
21.13 **Prairie and Riparian Restoration and**  
21.14 **Monitoring**

21.15 \$527,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
21.16 to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota  
21.17 State Colleges and Universities system  
21.18 for Minnesota State University Moorhead  
21.19 in cooperation with the Department of  
21.20 Natural Resources to restore and monitor  
21.21 160 acres of prairie and riparian habitat  
21.22 and develop and disseminate monitoring  
21.23 protocols. This appropriation is contingent  
21.24 upon the donation of a 60-acre parcel to  
21.25 Minnesota State University Moorhead from  
21.26 the Minnesota State University Moorhead  
21.27 Alumni Foundation and is available until  
21.28 June 30, 2020, by which time the project must  
21.29 be completed and final products delivered.

21.30 **(h) Improving Community Forests**  
21.31 **Through Citizen Engagement**

21.32 \$800,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
21.33 to the commissioner of natural resources  
21.34 to design and pilot a program, including  
21.35 grants to communities, to mobilize citizen

22.1 volunteers to protect, improve, and maintain  
22.2 local forests in communities around the state.  
22.3 Participation is open to any municipality in  
22.4 the state and participating municipalities will  
22.5 be selected through a competitive proposal  
22.6 process that will include representation from  
22.7 both metropolitan and nonmetropolitan  
22.8 areas of the state. Trees planted using this  
22.9 appropriation must be species that are native  
22.10 to Minnesota. A participating municipality  
22.11 must provide a match of not less than 25  
22.12 percent, up to half of which may be in the  
22.13 form of in-kind support. This appropriation  
22.14 is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
22.15 time the project must be completed and final  
22.16 products delivered.

22.17 **(i) Flood Recovery on Sargent Creek in**  
22.18 **Duluth**

22.19 \$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
22.20 to the commissioner of natural resources  
22.21 for an agreement with the city of Duluth to  
22.22 re-establish stable and natural streambanks  
22.23 with riparian and aquatic habitat restoration  
22.24 on at least 5,400 linear feet of Sargent Creek  
22.25 in Duluth destroyed during the flood of 2012.

22.26 **(j) Shoreland Protection for Lower St.**  
22.27 **Croix River**

22.28 \$190,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
22.29 to the commissioner of natural resources  
22.30 for an agreement with the St. Croix River  
22.31 Association to provide technical assistance  
22.32 to landowners, local governments, realtors,  
22.33 and developers on shoreland conservation  
22.34 and protection of the lower St. Croix River.  
22.35 This appropriation is available until June

|       |   |                   |            |
|-------|---|-------------------|------------|
| 23.1  | <u>30, 2018, by which time the project must be</u>      |                   |            |
| 23.2  | <u>completed and final products delivered.</u>          |                   |            |
| 23.3  | <b><u>(k) Redwood and Renville Counties</u></b>         |                   |            |
| 23.4  | <b><u>Outdoor Recreation and Conservation</u></b>       |                   |            |
| 23.5  | <b><u>Master Plan</u></b>                               |                   |            |
| 23.6  | <u>\$75,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>   |                   |            |
| 23.7  | <u>to the commissioner of natural resources</u>         |                   |            |
| 23.8  | <u>for an agreement with Renville County</u>            |                   |            |
| 23.9  | <u>in cooperation with Redwood County to</u>            |                   |            |
| 23.10 | <u>develop a joint outdoor recreation and</u>           |                   |            |
| 23.11 | <u>conservation master plan to guide future</u>         |                   |            |
| 23.12 | <u>development and protect cultural, historical,</u>    |                   |            |
| 23.13 | <u>and natural resources in the Minnesota River</u>     |                   |            |
| 23.14 | <u>Valley.</u>  |                   |            |
| 23.15 | <b><u>Subd. 9. Land Acquisition for Habitat and</u></b> |                   |            |
| 23.16 | <b><u>Recreation</u></b>                                | <u>14,190,000</u> | <u>-0-</u> |
| 23.17 | <b><u>(a) State Parks and Trails Land</u></b>           |                   |            |
| 23.18 | <b><u>Acquisitions</u></b>                              |                   |            |
| 23.19 | <u>\$1,500,000 the first year is from the trust</u>     |                   |            |
| 23.20 | <u>fund to the commissioner of natural resources</u>    |                   |            |
| 23.21 | <u>to acquire at least 335 acres for authorized</u>     |                   |            |
| 23.22 | <u>state trails and critical parcels within the</u>     |                   |            |
| 23.23 | <u>statutory boundaries of state parks. State</u>       |                   |            |
| 23.24 | <u>park land acquired with this appropriation</u>       |                   |            |
| 23.25 | <u>must be sufficiently improved to meet at</u>         |                   |            |
| 23.26 | <u>least minimum management standards, as</u>           |                   |            |
| 23.27 | <u>determined by the commissioner of natural</u>        |                   |            |
| 23.28 | <u>resources. A list of proposed acquisitions</u>       |                   |            |
| 23.29 | <u>must be provided as part of the required work</u>    |                   |            |
| 23.30 | <u>plan. This appropriation is available until</u>      |                   |            |
| 23.31 | <u>June 30, 2018, by which time the project must</u>    |                   |            |
| 23.32 | <u>be completed and final products delivered.</u>       |                   |            |
| 23.33 | <b><u>(b) Metropolitan Regional Park System</u></b>     |                   |            |
| 23.34 | <b><u>Land Acquisition – Phase IV</u></b>               |                   |            |

24.1 \$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust  
24.2 fund to the Metropolitan Council for grants  
24.3 to acquire at least 133 acres of lands within  
24.4 the approved park unit boundaries of the  
24.5 metropolitan regional park system. This  
24.6 appropriation may not be used to purchase  
24.7 habitable residential structures. A list of  
24.8 proposed fee title and easement acquisitions  
24.9 must be provided as part of the required work  
24.10 plan. This appropriation must be matched  
24.11 by at least 40 percent of nonstate money that  
24.12 must be committed by December 31, 2015, or  
24.13 the appropriation cancels. This appropriation  
24.14 is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
24.15 time the project must be completed and final  
24.16 products delivered.

24.17 **(c) SNA Acquisition, Restoration,**  
24.18 **Enhancement, and Public Engagement**

24.19 \$4,000,000 the first year is from the trust  
24.20 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
24.21 to acquire at least 350 acres of lands with  
24.22 high-quality native plant communities and  
24.23 rare features to be established as scientific  
24.24 and natural areas as provided in Minnesota  
24.25 Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 5,  
24.26 restore and improve at least 550 acres of  
24.27 scientific and natural areas, and provide  
24.28 technical assistance and outreach. A list of  
24.29 proposed acquisitions must be provided as  
24.30 part of the required work plan. Land acquired  
24.31 with this appropriation must be sufficiently  
24.32 improved to meet at least minimum  
24.33 management standards, as determined by  
24.34 the commissioner of natural resources. This  
24.35 appropriation is available until June 30,



25.1 2018, by which time the project must be  
25.2 completed and final products delivered.

25.3 **(d) Native Prairie Stewardship and Prairie**  
25.4 **Bank Easement Acquisition**

25.5 \$3,325,000 the first year is from the trust  
25.6 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
25.7 to acquire native prairie bank easements on  
25.8 at least 675 acres, prepare baseline property  
25.9 assessments, restore and enhance at least  
25.10 1,000 acres of native prairie sites, and provide  
25.11 technical assistance to landowners. Of this  
25.12 amount, up to \$135,000 must be deposited  
25.13 in a conservation easement stewardship  
25.14 account. Deposits into the conservation  
25.15 easement stewardship account must be made  
25.16 upon closing on conservation easements or at  
25.17 a time otherwise approved in the work plan.

25.18 A list of proposed easement acquisitions must  
25.19 be provided as part of the required work plan.

25.20 This appropriation is available until June  
25.21 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
25.22 completed and final products delivered.

25.23 **(e) Metro Conservation Corridors -**  
25.24 **Phase VIII Coordination, Mapping, and**  
25.25 **Conservation Easements**

25.26 \$515,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
25.27 to the commissioner of natural resources  
25.28 for an agreement with the Minnesota  
25.29 Land Trust for Phase VIII of the Metro  
25.30 Conservation Corridors partnership to  
25.31 provide coordination and mapping for  
25.32 the partnership and to acquire permanent  
25.33 conservation easements on at least 120 acres  
25.34 of strategic ecological landscapes to protect  
25.35 priority natural areas in the metropolitan

26.1 area, as defined under Minnesota Statutes,  
26.2 section 473.121, subdivision 2, and portions  
26.3 of the surrounding counties. A list of  
26.4 proposed easement acquisitions must be  
26.5 provided as part of the required work plan.  
26.6 Land acquired with this appropriation  
26.7 must be sufficiently improved to meet at  
26.8 least minimum management standards, as  
26.9 determined by the commissioner of natural  
26.10 resources. Expenditures are limited to the  
26.11 identified project corridor areas as defined in  
26.12 the work plan. Up to \$40,000 may be used  
26.13 for coordination and mapping for the Metro  
26.14 Conservation Corridors. All conservation  
26.15 easements must be perpetual and have a  
26.16 natural resource management plan. A list  
26.17 of proposed easement acquisitions must be  
26.18 provided as part of the required work plan.  
26.19 This appropriation is available June 30, 2018,  
26.20 by which time the project must be completed  
26.21 and final products delivered.  
26.22 **(f) Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase**  
26.23 **VIII Strategic Lands Protection**  
26.24 \$750,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
26.25 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
26.26 an agreement with The Trust for Public Land  
26.27 for Phase VIII of the Metro Conservation  
26.28 Corridors partnership to acquire in fee at  
26.29 least 35 acres of high-quality priority state  
26.30 and local natural areas in the metropolitan  
26.31 area, as defined under Minnesota Statutes,  
26.32 section 473.121, subdivision 2, and portions  
26.33 of the surrounding counties. A list of  
26.34 proposed acquisitions must be provided as  
26.35 part of the required work plan. Land acquired  
26.36 with this appropriation must be sufficiently

27.1 improved to meet at least minimum  
27.2 management standards, as determined by  
27.3 the commissioner of natural resources.  
27.4 Expenditures are limited to the identified  
27.5 project corridor areas as defined in the work  
27.6 plan. This appropriation may not be used  
27.7 to purchase habitable residential structures,  
27.8 unless expressly approved in the work  
27.9 plan. A list of fee title acquisitions must be  
27.10 provided as part of the required work plan.  
27.11 This appropriation is available until June  
27.12 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
27.13 completed and final products delivered.  
27.14 **(g) Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase**  
27.15 **VIII Priority Expansion of Minnesota**  
27.16 **Valley National Wildlife Refuge**  
27.17 \$500,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
27.18 to the commissioner of natural resources  
27.19 for an agreement with the Minnesota Valley  
27.20 National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc. for  
27.21 Phase VIII of the Metro Conservation  
27.22 Corridors partnership to acquire in fee  
27.23 at least 100 acres of priority habitat for  
27.24 the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife  
27.25 Refuge in the metropolitan area, as defined  
27.26 under Minnesota Statutes, section 473.121,  
27.27 subdivision 2, and portions of the surrounding  
27.28 counties. A list of proposed acquisitions  
27.29 must be provided as part of the required work  
27.30 plan. Land acquired with this appropriation  
27.31 must be sufficiently improved to meet at  
27.32 least minimum management standards.  
27.33 Expenditures are limited to the identified  
27.34 project corridor areas as defined in the work  
27.35 plan. This appropriation may not be used  
27.36 to purchase habitable residential structures,

28.1 unless expressly approved in the work plan.  
28.2 This appropriation is available until June  
28.3 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
28.4 completed and final products delivered.

28.5 **(h) Metro Conservation Corridors -**  
28.6 **Phase VIII Wildlife Management Area**  
28.7 **Acquisition**

28.8 \$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
28.9 to the commissioner of natural resources  
28.10 for Phase VIII of the Metro Conservation  
28.11 Corridors partnership to acquire in fee at  
28.12 least 82 acres along the lower reaches of the  
28.13 Vermillion River in Dakota County within  
28.14 the Gores Pool Wildlife Management Area.  
28.15 Land acquired with this appropriation must  
28.16 be sufficiently improved to meet at least  
28.17 minimum management standards. This  
28.18 appropriation may not be used to purchase  
28.19 habitable residential structures, unless  
28.20 expressly approved in the work plan. This  
28.21 appropriation is available until June 30,  
28.22 2018, by which time the project must be  
28.23 completed and final products delivered.

28.24 **(i) Mesabi Trail Development Soudan to**  
28.25 **Ely – Phase II**  
28.26 \$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust  
28.27 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
28.28 for an agreement with the St. Louis and  
28.29 Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority  
28.30 for the right-of-way acquisition, design,  
28.31 and construction of segments of the Mesabi  
28.32 Trail, totaling approximately seven miles  
28.33 between Soudan and Ely. This appropriation  
28.34 is available until June 30, 2018, by which

29.1 time the project must be completed and final  
29.2 products delivered.

29.3 **(j) Multi-benefit Watershed Scale**  
29.4 **Conservation on North Central Lakes**

29.5 \$950,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
29.6 to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to  
29.7 secure permanent conservation easements  
29.8 on at least 480 acres of high-quality habitat  
29.9 in Crow Wing and Cass Counties. Of this  
29.10 amount, up to \$65,000 must be deposited in a  
29.11 conservation easement stewardship account;  
29.12 and \$54,000 is for an agreement with the  
29.13 Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation in  
29.14 cooperation with Crow Wing County Soil  
29.15 and Water Conservation District and Cass  
29.16 County Soil and Water Conservation District.

29.17 Deposits into the conservation easement  
29.18 stewardship account must be made upon  
29.19 closing on conservation easements or at a  
29.20 time otherwise approved in the work plan. A  
29.21 list of proposed easement acquisitions must  
29.22 be provided as part of the required work plan.

29.23 This appropriation is available until June  
29.24 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
29.25 completed and final products delivered.

29.26 **(k) Conservation Easement Assessment**  
29.27 **and Valuation System Development**

29.28 \$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
29.29 to the Board of Regents of the University  
29.30 of Minnesota to assess the effectiveness of  
29.31 existing conservation easements acquired  
29.32 through state expenditures at achieving  
29.33 their intended outcomes of public value  
29.34 and ecological benefits and to develop  
29.35 a standardized, objective conservation

|       |  |                  |            |
|-------|--|------------------|------------|
| 30.1  | <u>easement valuation system for guiding future</u>      |                  |            |
| 30.2  | <u>state investments in conservation easements</u>       |                  |            |
| 30.3  | <u>to ensure the proposed environmental</u>              |                  |            |
| 30.4  | <u>benefits are being achieved in a cost-effective</u>   |                  |            |
| 30.5  | <u>manner. This appropriation is available until</u>     |                  |            |
| 30.6  | <u>June 30, 2018, by which time the project must</u>     |                  |            |
| 30.7  | <u>be completed and final products delivered.</u>        |                  |            |
| 30.8  | <b><u>Subd. 10. Emerging Issues Account</u></b>          | <u>1,000,000</u> | <u>-0-</u> |
| 30.9  | <u>\$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u> |                  |            |
| 30.10 | <u>to an emerging issues account authorized</u>          |                  |            |
| 30.11 | <u>in Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.08,</u>           |                  |            |
| 30.12 | <u>subdivision 4, paragraph (d).</u>                     |                  |            |
| 30.13 | <b><u>Subd. 11. Administration and Contract</u></b>      |                  |            |
| 30.14 | <b><u>Agreement Reimbursement</u></b>                    | <u>1,207,000</u> | <u>-0-</u> |
| 30.15 | <b><u>(a) Legislative-Citizen Commission on</u></b>      |                  |            |
| 30.16 | <b><u>Minnesota Resources</u></b>                        |                  |            |
| 30.17 | <u>\$1,072,000 the first year is from the trust</u>      |                  |            |
| 30.18 | <u>fund to the Legislative-Citizen Commission</u>        |                  |            |
| 30.19 | <u>on Minnesota Resources for administration</u>         |                  |            |
| 30.20 | <u>in fiscal years 2016 and 2017 as provided</u>         |                  |            |
| 30.21 | <u>in Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.09,</u>           |                  |            |
| 30.22 | <u>subdivision 5.</u>                                    |                  |            |
| 30.23 | <b><u>(b) Contract Agreement Reimbursement</u></b>       |                  |            |
| 30.24 | <u>\$135,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>   |                  |            |
| 30.25 | <u>to the commissioner of natural resources</u>          |                  |            |
| 30.26 | <u>at the direction of the Legislative-Citizen</u>       |                  |            |
| 30.27 | <u>Commission on Minnesota Resources for</u>             |                  |            |
| 30.28 | <u>expenses incurred for contract agreement</u>          |                  |            |
| 30.29 | <u>reimbursement for the agreements specified</u>        |                  |            |
| 30.30 | <u>in this section. The commissioner</u>                 |                  |            |
| 30.31 | <u>shall provide documentation to the</u>                |                  |            |
| 30.32 | <u>Legislative-Citizen Commission on</u>                 |                  |            |
| 30.33 | <u>Minnesota Resources on the expenditure of</u>         |                  |            |
| 30.34 | <u>these funds.</u>                                      |                  |            |

**Subd. 12. Availability of Appropriations**

Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the work plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Costs that are directly related to and necessary for an appropriation, including financial services, human resources, information services, rent, and utilities, are eligible only if the costs can be clearly justified and individually documented specific to the appropriation's purpose and would not be generated by the recipient but for the receipt of the appropriation. No broad allocations for costs in either dollars or percentages are allowed. Unless otherwise provided, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2017, when projects must be completed and final products delivered. For acquisition of real property, the appropriations in this section are available for an additional fiscal year if a binding contract for acquisition of the real property is entered into before the original expiration date of the appropriation. If a project receives a federal grant, the time period of the appropriation is extended to equal the federal grant period.

**Subd. 13. Data Availability Requirements**

32.1 Data collected by the projects funded under  
32.2 this section must conform to guidelines  
32.3 and standards adopted by MN.IT Services.  
32.4 Spatial data also must conform to additional  
32.5 guidelines and standards designed to support  
32.6 data coordination and distribution that have  
32.7 been published by the Minnesota Geospatial  
32.8 Information Office. Descriptions of spatial  
32.9 data must be prepared as specified in  
32.10 the state's geographic metadata guideline  
32.11 and must be submitted to the Minnesota  
32.12 Geospatial Information Office. All data must  
32.13 be accessible and free to the public unless  
32.14 made private under the Data Practices Act,  
32.15 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13. To the extent  
32.16 practicable, summary data and results of  
32.17 projects funded under this section should  
32.18 be readily accessible on the Internet and  
32.19 identified as having received funding from  
32.20 the environment and natural resources trust  
32.21 fund.

32.22 **Subd. 14. Project Requirements**

32.23 (a) As a condition of accepting an  
32.24 appropriation under this section, an agency  
32.25 or entity receiving an appropriation or a  
32.26 party to an agreement from an appropriation  
32.27 must comply with paragraphs (b) to (l)  
32.28 and Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, and  
32.29 must submit a work plan and semiannual  
32.30 progress reports in the form determined  
32.31 by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on  
32.32 Minnesota Resources for any project funded  
32.33 in whole or in part with funds from the  
32.34 appropriation. Modifications to the approved  
32.35 work plan and budget expenditures must  
32.36 be made through the amendment process



33.1 established by the Legislative-Citizen  
33.2 Commission on Minnesota Resources.

33.3 (b) A recipient of money appropriated in  
33.4 this section that conducts a restoration using  
33.5 funds appropriated in this section must use  
33.6 native plant species according to the Board of  
33.7 Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation  
33.8 establishment and enhancement guidelines  
33.9 and include an appropriate diversity of  
33.10 native species selected to provide habitat for  
33.11 pollinators throughout the growing season as  
33.12 required under Minnesota Statutes, section  
33.13 84.973.

33.14 (c) For all restorations conducted with money  
33.15 appropriated under this section, a recipient  
33.16 must prepare an ecological restoration  
33.17 and management plan that, to the degree  
33.18 practicable, is consistent with the highest  
33.19 quality conservation and ecological goals for  
33.20 the restoration site. Consideration should  
33.21 be given to soil, geology, topography, and  
33.22 other relevant factors that would provide  
33.23 the best chance for long-term success and  
33.24 durability of the restoration projects. The  
33.25 plan must include the proposed timetable  
33.26 for implementing the restoration, including  
33.27 site preparation, establishment of diverse  
33.28 plant species, maintenance, and additional  
33.29 enhancement to establish the restoration;  
33.30 identify long-term maintenance and  
33.31 management needs of the restoration and  
33.32 how the maintenance, management, and  
33.33 enhancement will be financed; and take  
33.34 advantage of the best available science and  
33.35 include innovative techniques to achieve the  
33.36 best restoration.

34.1 (d) An entity receiving an appropriation in  
34.2 this section for restoration activities must  
34.3 provide an initial restoration evaluation  
34.4 at the completion of the appropriation  
34.5 and an evaluation three years beyond the  
34.6 completion of the expenditure. Restorations  
34.7 must be evaluated relative to the stated  
34.8 goals and standards in the restoration plan,  
34.9 current science, and, when applicable, the  
34.10 Board of Water and Soil Resources' native  
34.11 vegetation establishment and enhancement  
34.12 guidelines. The evaluation must determine  
34.13 whether the restorations are meeting planned  
34.14 goals, identify any problems with the  
34.15 implementation of the restorations, and,  
34.16 if necessary, give recommendations on  
34.17 improving restorations. The evaluation must  
34.18 be focused on improving future restorations.

34.19 (e) All restoration and enhancement projects  
34.20 funded with money appropriated in this  
34.21 section must be on land permanently  
34.22 protected by a conservation easement or  
34.23 public ownership.

34.24 (f) A recipient of money from an  
34.25 appropriation under this section must  
34.26 give consideration to contracting with  
34.27 Conservation Corps Minnesota for contract  
34.28 restoration and enhancement services.

34.29 (g) All conservation easements acquired with  
34.30 money appropriated under this section must:

34.31 (1) be permanent;  
34.32 (2) specify the parties to an easement in the  
34.33 easement;  
34.34 (3) specify all of the provisions of an  
34.35 agreement that are permanent;

35.1 (4) be sent to the Legislative-Citizen  
35.2 Commission on Minnesota Resources in an  
35.3 electronic format at least ten business days  
35.4 prior to closing;

35.5 (5) include a long-term monitoring and  
35.6 enforcement plan and funding for monitoring  
35.7 and enforcing the easement agreement; and

35.8 (6) include requirements in the easement  
35.9 document to address specific groundwater  
35.10 and surface water quality protection activities  
35.11 such as keeping water on the landscape,  
35.12 reducing nutrient and contaminant loading,  
35.13 protecting groundwater, and not permitting  
35.14 artificial hydrological modifications.

35.15 (h) For any acquisition of lands or interest  
35.16 in lands, a recipient of money appropriated  
35.17 under this section shall not agree to pay  
35.18 more than 100 percent of the appraised value  
35.19 for a parcel of land using this money to  
35.20 complete the purchase, in part or in whole,  
35.21 except that up to ten percent above the  
35.22 appraised value may be allowed to complete  
35.23 the purchase, in part or in whole, using this  
35.24 money if permission is received in advance  
35.25 of the purchase from the Legislative-Citizen  
35.26 Commission on Minnesota Resources.

35.27 (i) For any acquisition of land or interest in  
35.28 land, a recipient of money appropriated under  
35.29 this section must give priority to high-quality  
35.30 natural resources or conservation lands that  
35.31 provide natural buffers to water resources.

35.32 (j) For new lands acquired with money  
35.33 appropriated under this section, a recipient  
35.34 must prepare an ecological restoration  
35.35 and management plan in compliance with

36.1 paragraph (c), including sufficient funding  
36.2 for implementation unless the work plan  
36.3 addresses why a portion of the money is  
36.4 not necessary to achieve a high-quality  
36.5 restoration.

36.6 (k) To ensure public accountability for  
36.7 the use of public funds, within 60 days  
36.8 of the transaction, a recipient of money  
36.9 appropriated under this section must provide  
36.10 to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on  
36.11 Minnesota Resources documentation of the  
36.12 selection process used to identify parcels  
36.13 acquired and provide documentation of all  
36.14 related transaction costs, including but not  
36.15 limited to appraisals, legal fees, recording  
36.16 fees, commissions, other similar costs,  
36.17 and donations. This information must be  
36.18 provided for all parties involved in the  
36.19 transaction. The recipient must also report  
36.20 to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on  
36.21 Minnesota Resources any difference between  
36.22 the acquisition amount paid to the seller and  
36.23 the state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal,  
36.24 if a state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal  
36.25 was conducted.

36.26 (l) A recipient of an appropriation from  
36.27 the trust fund under this section must  
36.28 acknowledge financial support from  
36.29 the Minnesota environment and natural  
36.30 resources trust fund in project publications,  
36.31 signage, and other public communications  
36.32 and outreach related to work completed  
36.33 using the appropriation. Acknowledgment  
36.34 may occur, as appropriate, through use of  
36.35 the trust fund logo or inclusion of language  
36.36 attributing support from the trust fund. Each

direct recipient of money appropriated in  
this section, as well as each recipient of a  
grant awarded pursuant to this section, must  
satisfy all reporting and other requirements  
incumbent upon constitutionally dedicated  
funding recipients as provided in Minnesota  
Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10, and  
chapter 116P.

**Subd. 15. Payment Conditions and Capital**  
**Equipment Expenditures**

(a) All agreements, grants, or contracts  
referred to in this section must be  
administered on a reimbursement basis  
unless otherwise provided in this section.  
Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
16A.41, expenditures made on or after  
July 1, 2015, or the date the work plan is  
approved, whichever is later, are eligible for  
reimbursement unless otherwise provided  
in this section. Periodic payment must be  
made upon receiving documentation that  
the deliverable items articulated in the  
approved work plan have been achieved,  
including partial achievements as evidenced  
by approved progress reports. Reasonable  
amounts may be advanced to projects to  
accommodate cash flow needs or match  
federal money. The advances must be  
approved as part of the work plan. No  
expenditures for capital equipment are  
allowed unless expressly authorized in the  
project work plan.

(b) Single source contracts as specified in the  
approved work plan are allowed.

**Subd. 16. Purchase of Recycled and Recyclable**  
**Materials**

38.1 A political subdivision, public or private  
38.2 corporation, or other entity that receives an  
38.3 appropriation under this section must use the  
38.4 appropriation in compliance with Minnesota  
38.5 Statutes, section 16C.0725, regarding  
38.6 purchase of recycled, repairable, and durable  
38.7 materials; and Minnesota Statutes, section  
38.8 16C.073, regarding purchase and use of  
38.9 paper stock and printing.

38.10 **Subd. 17. Energy Conservation and**  
38.11 **Sustainable Building Guidelines**

38.12 A recipient to whom an appropriation is made  
38.13 under this section for a capital improvement  
38.14 project must ensure that the project complies  
38.15 with the applicable energy conservation and  
38.16 sustainable building guidelines and standards  
38.17 contained in law, including Minnesota  
38.18 Statutes, sections 16B.325, 216C.19, and  
38.19 216C.20, and rules adopted under those  
38.20 sections. The recipient may use the energy  
38.21 planning, advocacy, and State Energy Office  
38.22 units of the Department of Commerce to  
38.23 obtain information and technical assistance  
38.24 on energy conservation and alternative  
38.25 energy development relating to the planning  
38.26 and construction of the capital improvement  
38.27 project.

38.28 **Subd. 18. Accessibility**

38.29 Structural and nonstructural facilities must  
38.30 meet the design standards in the Americans  
38.31 with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility  
38.32 guidelines.

38.33 **Subd. 19. Carryforward; Extension**

- 39.1 (a) The availability of the appropriations for  
39.2 the following projects are extended to June  
39.3 30, 2016:
- 39.4 (1) Laws 2013, chapter 52, section 2,  
39.5 subdivision 4, paragraph (l), Restorations  
39.6 Evaluations;
- 39.7 (2) Laws 2013, chapter 52, section 2,  
39.8 subdivision 6, paragraph (b), detecting and  
39.9 monitoring certain carp populations; and
- 39.10 (3) Laws 2011, First Special Session  
39.11 chapter 2, article 3, section 2, subdivision  
39.12 4, paragraph (g), Minnesota River Valley  
39.13 Green Corridor Scientific and Natural Area  
39.14 Acquisition.
- 39.15 (b) The availability of the appropriations for  
39.16 the following projects are extended to June  
39.17 30, 2017:
- 39.18 (1) Laws 2013, chapter 52, section 2,  
39.19 subdivision 5, paragraph (e), Measuring  
39.20 Hydrologic Benefits from Glacial Ridge  
39.21 Habitat Restoration; and
- 39.22 (2) Laws 2014, chapter 226, section 2,  
39.23 subdivision 3, paragraph (m), Measuring  
39.24 Hydrologic Benefits from Glacial Ridge  
39.25 Habitat Restoration.
- 39.26 (c) The availability of the appropriation for  
39.27 the following project is extended to June  
39.28 30, 2019: Laws 2014, chapter 226, section  
39.29 2, subdivision 6, paragraph (a), Enhancing  
39.30 Pollinator Landscapes.
- 39.31 (d) The following project may be extended  
39.32 statewide, Laws 2014, chapter 226, section  
39.33 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), Urban

40.1 Environmental Education Engaging Students  
40.2 in Local Resources.

40.3 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 116P.05, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

40.4 Subd. 2. **Duties.** (a) The commission shall recommend an annual or biennial  
40.5 legislative bill for appropriations from the environment and natural resources trust fund and  
40.6 shall adopt a strategic plan as provided in section 116P.08. Approval of the recommended  
40.7 legislative bill requires an affirmative vote of at least 12 members of the commission.

40.8 (b) It is a condition of acceptance of the appropriations made from the Minnesota  
40.9 environment and natural resources trust fund, and oil overcharge money under section  
40.10 4.071, subdivision 2, that the agency or entity receiving the appropriation must  
40.11 submit a work plan and semiannual progress reports in the form determined by the  
40.12 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, and comply with applicable  
40.13 reporting requirements under section 116P.16. None of the money provided may be  
40.14 spent unless the commission has approved the pertinent work plan. Modifications to  
40.15 the approved work plan and budget expenditures shall be made through the amendment  
40.16 process established by the commission. The commission shall ensure that the expenditures  
40.17 and outcomes described in the work plan for appropriations funded by the environment  
40.18 and natural resources trust fund are met.

40.19 (c) The peer review ~~panel~~ procedures created under section 116P.08 must also be  
40.20 used to review, comment, and report to the commission on research proposals applying for  
40.21 an appropriation from the oil overcharge money under section 4.071, subdivision 2.

40.22 (d) The commission may adopt operating procedures to fulfill its duties under this  
40.23 chapter.

40.24 (e) As part of the operating procedures, the commission shall:

40.25 (1) ensure that members' expectations are to participate in all meetings related to  
40.26 funding decision recommendations;

40.27 (2) recommend adequate funding for increased citizen outreach and communications  
40.28 for trust fund expenditure planning;

40.29 (3) allow administrative expenses as part of individual project expenditures based  
40.30 on need;

40.31 (4) provide for project outcome evaluation;

40.32 (5) keep the grant application, administration, and review process as simple as  
40.33 possible; and

40.34 (6) define and emphasize the leveraging of additional sources of money that project  
40.35 proposers should consider when making trust fund proposals.



41.1 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 116P.08, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

41.2 Subd. 5. **Public meetings.** (a) Meetings of the commission, committees or  
41.3 subcommittees of the commission, technical advisory committees, and peer review panels  
41.4 reviewers must be open to the public. The commission shall attempt to meet throughout  
41.5 various regions of the state during each biennium. For purposes of this subdivision, a  
41.6 meeting occurs when a quorum is present and action is taken regarding a matter within  
41.7 the jurisdiction of the commission, a committee or subcommittee of the commission, a  
41.8 technical advisory committee, or a peer review panel reviewers.

41.9 (b) For legislative members of the commission, enforcement of this subdivision is  
41.10 governed by section 3.055, subdivision 2. For nonlegislative members of the commission,  
41.11 enforcement of this subdivision is governed by section 13D.06, subdivisions 1 and 2.

41.12 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 116P.08, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

41.13 Subd. 6. **Peer review.** (a) Research proposals must include a stated purpose directly  
41.14 connected to the trust fund's constitutional mandate, this chapter, and the adopted strategic  
41.15 plan under subdivision 3, a timeline, potential outcomes, and an explanation of the need  
41.16 for the research. All research proposals must be peer reviewed by a peer review panel  
41.17 before receiving an appropriation.

41.18 (b) In conducting research proposal reviews, the peer review panel reviewers shall:

41.19 (1) comment on the methodology proposed and whether it can be expected to yield  
41.20 appropriate and useful information and data; and

41.21 (2) comment on the need for the research and about similar existing information  
41.22 available, if any; and.

41.23 ~~(3) report to the commission on clauses (1) and (2)~~ (c) Peer reviewers' comments  
41.24 under paragraph (b) must be reported to the commission.

41.25 ~~(e) (d) The peer review panel also must~~ reviewers may review completed research  
41.26 proposals that have received an appropriation and comment and report upon whether the  
41.27 project reached the intended goals.

41.28 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 116P.08, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

41.29 Subd. 7. **Peer review panel membership reviewers.** (a) The peer review panel  
41.30 reviewers must ~~consist of at least five members who are~~ be knowledgeable in general  
41.31 research methods in the areas of environment and natural resources. ~~Not more than two~~  
41.32 ~~members of the panel may be employees of state agencies in Minnesota.~~

41.33 (b) ~~The commission shall select a chair every two years who shall be responsible for~~  
41.34 ~~convening meetings of the panel as often as is necessary to fulfill its duties as prescribed~~

42.1 ~~in this section.~~ Compensation of ~~panel members~~ peer reviewers is governed by section  
42.2 15.059, subdivision 3.

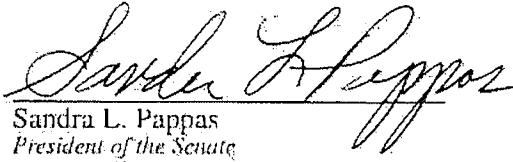
42.3 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 116P.09, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

42.4 Subd. 6. **Conflict of interest.** A commission member, a technical advisory  
42.5 committee member, a peer review ~~panelist~~ reviewer, or an employee of the commission  
42.6 may not participate in or vote on a decision of the commission, advisory committee, or  
42.7 peer review ~~panel~~ relating to an organization in which the member, ~~panelist~~ peer reviewer,  
42.8 or employee has either a direct or indirect personal financial interest. While serving on the  
42.9 commission, technical advisory committee, ~~or as a peer review panel reviewer~~, or being  
42.10 an employee of the commission, a person shall avoid any potential conflict of interest.

42.11 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 116P.09, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

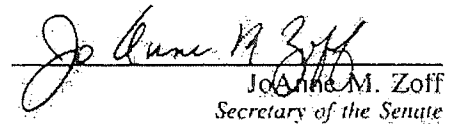
42.12 Subd. 8. **Technical advisory committees.** The commission shall make use of  
42.13 available public and private expertise on environment and natural resource issues ~~by~~  
42.14 ~~appointing and may appoint~~ necessary technical advisory committees to review funding  
42.15 proposals and evaluate project outcomes. Compensation for technical advisory committee  
42.16 members is governed by section 15.059, subdivision 6.

This bill was passed in conformity to the rules of each house and the joint rules of the two houses as required by the Constitution of the State of Minnesota.

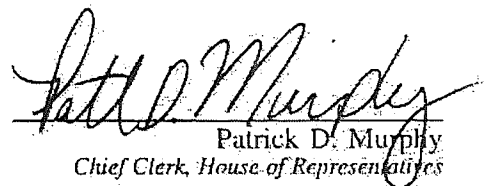
  
Sandra L. Pappas  
President of the Senate

  
Kurt L. Daudt  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate on May 18, 2015.

  
JoAnne M. Zoff  
Secretary of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives on May 18, 2015.

  
Patrick D. Murphy  
Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

This bill is properly enrolled and was presented to  
Governor on May 20, 2015.

  
Michele L. Timmons  
Revisor of Statutes

Approved on May 22, 2015, at 4:00 P.M.

  
Mark Dayton  
Governor

Filed on May 22, 2015.

  
Steve Simon  
Secretary of State

