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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1840

01/24/2012 Authored by Rukavina and Dill

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to state lands; providing for condemnation of certain riparian school  
1.3 trust lands.

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

1.5 Section 1. CONDEMNATION OF SCHOOL TRUST LAND; VERMILION AND  
1.6 BASS LAKES; ST. LOUIS COUNTY.

1.7 (a) To protect and enhance habitat for fish, game, and wildlife and to ensure the  
1.8 enjoyment of those resources by the people of Minnesota, the commissioner of natural  
1.9 resources shall exercise the power of eminent domain under Minnesota Statutes, chapter  
1.10 117, to acquire fee title to all riparian school trust lands bordering Vermilion and Bass  
1.11 Lakes in St. Louis County.

1.12 (b) Riparian land condemned under this section must be in parcels determined  
1.13 according to the subdivisions by the United States surveys. Parcels of riparian land must  
1.14 be designated from the shoreline of the lake, extending away from the lake only to the first  
1.15 surveyed subdivision line that yields a parcel of a size that can be legally developed.

1.16 (c) Notwithstanding any requirements of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 117, to the  
1.17 contrary, the damages awarded for riparian lands condemned under this section must  
1.18 be substantially equal to the amount paid by the commissioner of natural resources in  
1.19 acquiring the land for Lake Vermilion State Park under Laws 2008, chapter 365, section  
1.20 25, as amended by Laws 2010, chapter 189, section 61.

1.21 (d) Damages awarded according to this section shall be paid from the outdoor  
1.22 heritage fund to the permanent school fund.

1.23 (e) Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 9, does not apply to acquisition  
1.24 of land under this section. Land acquired under this section is open to the public taking of

- 2.1 fish and game unless otherwise provided by law and shall be retained in state ownership in
- 2.2 perpetuity for the use and enjoyment of the people of Minnesota.