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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 4269

02/26/2024 Authored by Feist, Smith, Greenman, Her, Kraft and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to water; appropriating money for a 50-year clean water plan.

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

1.4 Section 1. 50-YEAR CLEAN WATER PLAN; APPROPRIATION.

1.5 (a) \$14,600,000 in fiscal year 2025 is appropriated from the general fund to the Board
1.6 of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the University of Minnesota Water Council
1.7 to engage with partners and develop a 50-year clean water plan, according to the scope of
1.8 work developed under Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 9, section 12, that:

1.9 (1) provides a literature-based assessment of the current status and trends regarding the
1.10 quality and quantity of Minnesota waters, both surface and subsurface;

1.11 (2) identifies gaps in data or understanding and provides recommended steps to address
1.12 the gaps;

1.13 (3) identifies existing and potential future threats to Minnesota's waters; and

1.14 (4) proposes a road map of scenarios and policy recommendations designed to proactively
1.15 protect, remediate, and conserve clean water for human use and biodiversity for the next
1.16 50 years.

1.17 (b) The Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota is requested to submit to the
1.18 chairs and ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees
1.19 and divisions with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources:

1.20 (1) by June 30, 2025, a status report that includes:

1.21 (i) a directory of existing data, databases, and decision support tools; and

- 2.1 (ii) an assessment of gaps in data and understanding;
- 2.2 (2) by June 30, 2026, a status report that includes:
- 2.3 (i) a list of steps to take to address gaps in data and understanding; and
- 2.4 (ii) a set of policy scenarios and forecasting inputs;
- 2.5 (3) by June 30, 2027, a status report that includes:
- 2.6 (i) policy scenario and forecasting results for existing or potential threats; and
- 2.7 (ii) recommendations for tools and policy recommendations to address existing or
- 2.8 potential threats;
- 2.9 (4) by June 30, 2028, a status report that includes an evaluation of existing policies and
- 2.10 funding mechanisms; and
- 2.11 (5) by June 30, 2029, a final report that includes a summary of activities and findings
- 2.12 funded with this appropriation and final policy and programmatic recommendations.
- 2.13 (c) This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2029.