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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 207

01/09/2023 Authored by Tabke; Hansen, R.; Brand; Sencer-Mura; Pursell and others
01/17/2023 The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy
Adoption of Report: Amended and re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; establishing lawns to legumes grant program;
1.3 appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter
1.4 103B.

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

1.6 Section 1. [103B.104] LAWNS TO LEGUMES PROGRAM.

1.7 The Board of Water and Soil Resources may provide financial and technical assistance
1.8 to plant residential landscapes and community spaces with native vegetation and
1.9 pollinator-friendly forbs and legumes to protect a diversity of pollinators with declining
1.10 populations, providing additional benefits for water management, carbon sequestration, and
1.11 landscape resiliency. The board must establish criteria for grants or payments awarded under
1.12 this section. Grants or payments awarded under this section may give priority consideration
1.13 for proposals in areas identified by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as areas
1.14 where there is a high potential for rusty patched bumble bees and other priority species to
1.15 be present. The board may collaborate with and enter into agreements with federal, state,
1.16 and local agencies; Tribal Nations; and other nonprofit organizations and contractors to
1.17 implement and promote the program.

1.18 Sec. 2. LAWNS TO LEGUMES; APPROPRIATION.

1.19 \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 are appropriated from
1.20 the general fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for the lawns to legumes program
1.21 under Minnesota Statutes, section 103B.104. The board may enter into agreements with
1.22 local governments, Metro Blooms, and other organizations to support this effort.