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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 232

01/11/2023

Authored by Hansen, R.; Hassan; Jordan; Edelson and Lee, F.,
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Economic Development Finance and Policy

- 1.1

A bill for an act
- 1.2

relating to tourism; appropriating money for Explore Minnesota Tourism.
- 1.3

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

Section 1. **EXPLORE MINNESOTA TOURISM; APPROPRIATIONS.**
- 1.5

(a) \$215,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$215,000 in fiscal year 2025 are appropriated from
- 1.6

the general fund to Explore Minnesota Tourism to build additional administrative capacity
- 1.7

to provide support in the areas of brand strategy, communications, and industry relations.
- 1.8

(b) \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 is appropriated from the general fund to Explore
- 1.9

Minnesota Tourism for a tourism industry recovery grant program. The grant program must
- 1.10

provide money to organizations, Tribal governments, and communities to accelerate the
- 1.11

recovery of the state's tourism industry. Grant money may be used to support meetings,
- 1.12

conventions and group business, multicomunity and high-visibility events, and tourism
- 1.13

marketing. Explore Minnesota Tourism must accept applications under this paragraph for
- 1.14

at least five business days beginning at 8:00 a.m. on the first business day and, if total
- 1.15

applications exceed \$10,000,000, the grants must be awarded to eligible applicants at random
- 1.16

until the funding is exhausted. Of this amount, Explore Minnesota Tourism must not retain
- 1.17

any portion for administrative costs. This is a onetime appropriation.
- 1.18

(c) \$250,000 in fiscal year 2024 is appropriated from the general fund to Explore
- 1.19

Minnesota Tourism for a grant to the Grand Portage Band to focus tourism to Grand Portage.
- 1.20

This is a onetime appropriation.