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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 2556

04/21/2021

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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 game and fish; requiring the use of nontoxic ammunition; appropriating
1.3 money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 97B.

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

1.5 Section 1. **[97B.032] NONTOXIC AMMUNITION REQUIRED.**

1.6 Subdivision 1. Lead ammunition prohibited. A person may not use or possess lead
1.7 ammunition when hunting with firearms.

1.8 Subd. 2. Hunter notification. The commissioner must notify hunters of the requirements
1.9 of this section.

1.10 Subd. 3. Civil penalty. A person who violates this section is subject to the following
1.11 civil penalties:

1.12 (1) \$500 for the first offense; and

1.13 (2) a penalty of at least \$1,000 but no more than \$5,000 for each subsequent offense.

1.14 Subd. 4. Nontoxic ammunition vouchers. (a) To the extent funding is available, the
1.15 commissioner must establish a program to provide hunters with nontoxic ammunition at no
1.16 cost or at a reduced cost. The program must include a voucher for nontoxic ammunition
1.17 with a value not to exceed the average value of nontoxic ammunition in the state as
1.18 determined by the commissioner. The commissioner may work with partners to secure
1.19 additional resources for the program from local, federal, and private sources.

1.20 (b) The commissioner must submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority leaders
1.21 of the house of representatives and senate committees and divisions with jurisdiction over

2.1 the environment and natural resources on the implementation and redemption rates of
2.2 vouchers issued in the previous fiscal year. The report must be submitted by January 15 the
2.3 year following any fiscal year the program was being implemented.

2.4 Subd. 5. **Nontoxic shot buy-back and exchange program.** To the extent funding is
2.5 available, the commissioner must establish a program to buy back lead ammunition from
2.6 hunters and provide opportunities for hunters to exchange lead ammunition with nontoxic
2.7 ammunition.

2.8 Subd. 6. **Exemption.** This section does not apply to peace officers, other government
2.9 officials or employees, or their agents when carrying out a duty required by law.

2.10 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

2.11 (a) \$..... in fiscal year 2022 and \$..... in fiscal year 2023 are appropriated from the
2.12 fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the nontoxic shot voucher program
2.13 under Minnesota Statutes, section 97B.032, subdivision 4.

2.14 (b) \$..... in fiscal year 2022 and \$..... in fiscal year 2023 are appropriated from the
2.15 fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the nontoxic shot buy-back and
2.16 exchange program under Minnesota Statutes, section 97B.032, subdivision 5.