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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 3942

03/02/2020 Authored by Lippert, Poston and Brand
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Water Division

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; appropriating money to ensure safe and sustainable
1.3 drinking water for the future.

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

1.5 Section 1. PILOT PROGRAM TO ENSURE SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE DRINKING
1.6 WATER FOR THE FUTURE BY ENHANCING AND LEVERAGING COUNTY
1.7 GEOLOGIC ATLAS DATA; APPROPRIATION.

1.8 \$...... in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of
1.9 natural resources, in cooperation with the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota,
1.10 Minnesota Geological Survey, to do all of the following to ensure safe and sustainable
1.11 drinking water for the future:

1.12 (1) select a pilot program area consisting of a multicounty area that includes only counties
1.13 for which county geological atlases have been completed and in which a regional aquifer
1.14 or watershed is located;

1.15 (2) develop and implement a method for synthesizing and displaying county geologic
1.16 atlas data on an aquifer or watershed basis rather than a county basis in the pilot program
1.17 area. The data must include information about discharge and recharge;

1.18 (3) construct a flow model based on the data and apply the model to determine the water
1.19 budget for the aquifer or watershed in the pilot program area and resulting prudential limits
1.20 on sustainable water appropriations from the aquifer or watershed; and

1.21 (4) no later than October 1, 2021, submit a plan to the chairs and ranking minority
1.22 members of the house of representatives and senate committees and divisions with jurisdiction

2.1 over environment and natural resources policy and finance that summarizes the work and
2.2 results of the pilot program and provides a plan for undertaking similar efforts for all major
2.3 aquifers in the state, including funding options.

2.4 **Sec. 2. PLAN FOR DEVELOPING NETWORK OF MONITORING WELLS AND**
2.5 **WELL-OWNER EDUCATION; APPROPRIATION.**

2.6 \$..... in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of
2.7 agriculture, in cooperation with the commissioner of health, to develop a plan to increase
2.8 well monitoring and education of private well owners in areas with aquifers that are
2.9 vulnerable to contamination from nitrate and other chemicals and to develop a network of
2.10 monitoring wells that can be used to document trends in groundwater quality over time. No
2.11 later than October 1, 2021, the commissioner of agriculture must report the plan to the chairs
2.12 and ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees and
2.13 divisions with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources policy and finance. This
2.14 is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2022.