

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-SECOND SESSION**

**S.F. No. 261**

(SENATE AUTHORS: WEBER)

DATE  
01/21/2021

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OFFICIAL STATUS  
Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Environment and Natural Resources Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to natural resources; appropriating money to study storm water retention  
1.3 and infiltration and for a water storage plan.

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

1.5 Section 1. **STORM WATER RETENTION AND INFILTRATION STUDY;**  
1.6 **APPROPRIATION.**

1.7 \$..... in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of  
1.8 the Pollution Control Agency to evaluate the impact of storm water retention and infiltration  
1.9 in urban areas on groundwater and surface water, including the potential for contamination  
1.10 from pollutants and the effects on stream water flow, lake levels, and groundwater recharge.  
1.11 The commissioner must develop recommendations for when and where storm water retention  
1.12 and infiltration should be encouraged and discouraged. The commissioner must submit a  
1.13 report with the recommendations to the chairs and ranking minority members of the house  
1.14 of representatives and senate committees and divisions with jurisdiction over environment  
1.15 and natural resources by January 15, 2022. This is a onetime appropriation.

1.16 Sec. 2. **WATER STORAGE PLAN; APPROPRIATION.**

1.17 \$..... in fiscal year 2022 is appropriated from the general fund to the Board of Water  
1.18 and Soil Resources to develop a plan to increase water storage in strategic locations across  
1.19 the state. This is a onetime appropriation. The plan must:

1.20 (1) include recommendations for enhancing flood protection, providing flood control,  
1.21 and improving water quality through research, implementation, and outreach;

- 2.1 (2) identify peak water storage structure opportunities in critical areas of the state;
- 2.2 (3) include an assessment of peak water storage structures and their appropriateness for
- 2.3 specific landscape settings;
- 2.4 (4) include best management practices for enhancing water storage that take into account
- 2.5 specific water storage structures and landscape; and
- 2.6 (5) be submitted to the chairs and ranking minority members of the house of
- 2.7 representatives and senate committees and divisions with jurisdiction over environment and
- 2.8 natural resources by January 15, 2022.