

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

S.F. No. 5445

(SENATE AUTHORS: FRENTZ)

DATE
04/15/2024

D-PG

Introduction and first reading
Referred to State and Local Government and Veterans

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to state government; clarifying sustainable building guidelines; amending
1.3 Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 16B.325, subdivision 2; Laws 2023,
1.4 chapter 60, article 10, section 8.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 16B.325, subdivision 2, is amended
1.7 to read:

1.8 Subd. 2. **Lowest possible cost; energy conservation.** The guidelines must:

1.9 (1) focus on achieving the lowest possible lifetime cost, considering both construction
1.10 and operating costs, for new buildings and major renovations;

1.11 (2) allow for revisions that encourage continual energy conservation improvements in
1.12 new buildings and major renovations;

1.13 (3) define "major renovations" for purposes of this section to encompass not less than
1.14 10,000 square feet ~~or~~ and not less than the replacement of the mechanical, ventilation, or
1.15 cooling system of a building or a building section;

1.16 (4) establish sustainability guidelines that include air quality and lighting standards and
1.17 that create and maintain a healthy environment and facilitate productivity improvements;

1.18 (5) establish resiliency guidelines to encourage design that allows buildings to adapt to
1.19 and accommodate projected climate-related changes that are reflected in both acute events
1.20 and chronic trends, including but not limited to changes in temperature and precipitation
1.21 levels;

1.22 (6) specify ways to reduce material costs; and

2.1 (7) consider the long-term operating costs of the building, including the use of renewable
 2.2 energy sources and distributed electric energy generation that uses a renewable source or
 2.3 natural gas or a fuel that is as clean or cleaner than natural gas.

2.4 Sec. 2. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 10, section 8, is amended to read:

2.5 Sec. 8. **ADMINISTRATION** \$ 945,000 \$ -0-

2.6 (a) \$690,000 the first year is for a contract
 2.7 with the Board of Regents of the University
 2.8 of Minnesota for the Institute on the
 2.9 Environment to research and provide
 2.10 recommendations for establishing new energy
 2.11 guidelines for state buildings under Minnesota
 2.12 Statutes, section 16B.325, subdivision 2. The
 2.13 grant agreement must require the director of
 2.14 the Institute on the Environment to submit a
 2.15 written report that summarizes the findings
 2.16 and recommendations, including
 2.17 recommendations for policy and legislative
 2.18 changes, to the chairs and ranking minority
 2.19 members of the legislative committees in the
 2.20 house of representatives and the senate with
 2.21 primary jurisdiction over energy policy and
 2.22 capital investment.

2.23 (b) \$255,000 the first year is for grants and
 2.24 the environmental analysis of construction
 2.25 materials under Minnesota Statutes, section
 2.26 16B.312.

2.27 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2023.