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HOUSE FILE NO. 770

FIRST COMMITTEE ENGROSSMENT

February 8, 2007

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Finance

Referred by Chair to Higher Education and Work Force Development Policy and Finance Division.

April 9, 2008

Returned to the Education Finance and Economic Competitiveness Finance Division as Amended.

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to economic development; defining the Giants Ridge Recreation Area;
1.3 providing for a grant for certain employee training initiatives; providing that
1.4 certain appropriations do not cancel; appropriating money; amending Minnesota
1.5 Statutes 2006, section 298.22, subdivision 7; Laws 2007, chapter 135, article 1,
1.6 section 6, subdivision 4.

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

1.8 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.22, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

1.9 Subd. 7. **Project area development authority.** (a) In addition to the other powers
1.10 granted in this section and other law and notwithstanding any limitations contained in
1.11 subdivision 5, the commissioner, for purposes of fostering economic development and
1.12 tourism within the Giants Ridge Recreation Area or the Ironworld Discovery Center area,
1.13 may spend any money made available to the agency under section 298.28 or otherwise
1.14 provided by law to acquire real or personal property or interests therein by gift, purchase,
1.15 or lease and may convey by lease, sale, or other means of conveyance or commitment any
1.16 or all property interests owned or administered by the commissioner within such areas.

1.17 (b) In furtherance of development of the Giants Ridge Recreation Area or the
1.18 Ironworld Discovery Center area, the commissioner may establish and participate in
1.19 charitable foundations and nonprofit corporations, including a corporation within the
1.20 meaning of section 317A.011, subdivision 6.

1.21 (c) The term "Giants Ridge Recreation Area" refers to an economic development
1.22 project area established by the commissioner in furtherance of the powers delegated in this
1.23 section within St. Louis County in the ~~western~~ following portions of the town of White and
1.24 ~~in the eastern portion of the westerly, adjacent, unorganized township.~~ the city of Biwabik:

1.25 (1) Township 59 North, Range 15 West, Sections 7, 8, 17-20, and 29-32;

2.1 (2) Township 59 North, Range 16 West, Sections 6, 13, 24, 25, and 36;

2.2 (3) Township 58 North, Range 16 West, Section 1; and

2.3 (4) Township 58 North, Range 15 West, Sections 5 and 6.

2.4 (d) The term "Ironworld Discovery Center area" refers to an economic development
2.5 and tourism promotion project area established by the commissioner in furtherance
2.6 of the powers delegated in this section within St. Louis County in the south portion of
2.7 the town of Balkan.

2.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.9 Sec. 2. Laws 2007, chapter 135, article 1, section 6, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

2.10 Subd. 4. **Labor Standards/Apprenticeship** 1,833,000 1,803,000

2.11 Appropriations by Fund

2.12 General 1,069,000 1,024,000

2.13 Workforce

2.14 Development 764,000 779,000

2.15 The appropriation from the workforce
2.16 development fund is for the apprenticeship
2.17 program under Minnesota Statutes, chapter
2.18 178, and includes \$100,000 each year for
2.19 labor education and advancement program
2.20 grants.

2.21 \$360,000 the first year and \$300,000 the
2.22 second year from the general fund are for
2.23 prevailing wage enforcement of which
2.24 \$60,000 in the first year is for outreach and
2.25 survey participation improvements. Any
2.26 balance in the first year does not cancel and is
2.27 available for expenditure in the second year.

2.28 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.29 Sec. 3. **APPROPRIATION; HIRED.**

2.30 \$75,000 is appropriated from the general fund in fiscal year 2009 to the commissioner
2.31 of employment and economic development for a grant to HIRED to operate its industry
2.32 sector training initiatives, which provide employee training developed in collaboration
2.33 with employers in specific, high-demand industries. This is a onetime appropriation.

3.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.