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HOUSE FILE NO. 1236

FIRST COMMITTEE ENGROSSMENT

February 22, 2007

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Referred by Chair to Game, Fish and Forestry Division.

March 19, 2007

Returned to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources as Amended.

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; establishing a zebra mussel control pilot program;
1.3 appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 84D.02, by
1.4 adding a subdivision.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 84D.02, is amended by adding a
1.7 subdivision to read:

1.8 Subd. 2a. **Zebra mussel pilot program.** (a) The commissioner shall establish a
1.9 pilot program to curb the spread of zebra mussels. The commissioner shall give priority to
1.10 bodies of water at risk for the introduction of zebra mussels due to their high levels of use
1.11 and to bodies of water infested with zebra mussels. The program shall include elements of
1.12 public education, inspections, and enforcement to prevent the spread of zebra mussels and
1.13 other aquatic invasive species. The commissioner shall provide technical assistance to and
1.14 coordinate enforcement efforts with local government entities and private organizations to
1.15 implement the program.

1.16 (b) The commissioner shall provide grants to local government entities and private
1.17 organizations to implement the program. Grants awarded under this subdivision must be
1.18 matched with nonstate funding. Grant recipients must report to the commissioner annually
1.19 regarding the use of the grant money and the results obtained therefrom. The Department
1.20 of Natural Resources may use a portion of the funds appropriated under section 2 for
1.21 administration of the program.

1.22 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION; ZEBRA MUSSEL PILOT PROGRAM.**

- 2.1 \$..... in fiscal year 2008 and \$..... in fiscal year 2009 are appropriated from the
2.2 general fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the zebra mussel pilot program
2.3 under section 1. This appropriation becomes part of the agency base funding.