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HOUSE FILE NO. 3578

FIRST COMMITTEE ENGROSSMENT

February 28, 2008

Authored by Hilty

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

Referred by Chair to Energy Finance and Policy Division.

March 12, 2008

Returned to the Committee on Finance as Amended.

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to energy; clarifying terms of propane prepurchase program; amending
1.3 Minnesota Statutes 2007 Supplement, section 216B.0951, subdivision 1.

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

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2007 Supplement, section 216B.0951, subdivision 1,
1.6 is amended to read:

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The commissioner of commerce shall operate, or
1.8 contract to operate, a propane fuel prepurchase fuel program. The commissioner must hold
1.9 up to \$4,000,000 of a year's federal low-income home energy assistance appropriation
1.10 for use in the next year to prepurchase propane. The commissioner may contract at any
1.11 time of the year to purchase the lesser of one-third of the liquid propane fuel consumed by
1.12 low-income home energy assistance program recipients during the previous heating season
1.13 or the amount that can be purchased with available funds. The propane fuel prepurchase
1.14 program must be available statewide through ~~each local agency~~ agencies that ~~administers~~
1.15 administer the energy assistance program. The commissioner may decide to limit or not
1.16 engage in prepurchasing if the commissioner finds that there is a reasonable likelihood
1.17 that prepurchasing will not provide fuel-cost savings. Funds required to be held over to
1.18 the next year for prepurchase that the commissioner decides not to use for prepurchase are
1.19 not required to be held over to a subsequent year and may be used for other authorized
1.20 low-income home energy assistance purposes.