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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. 164

January 16, 2007

Authored by Murphy, M.; Jaros; Huntley; Sertich; Solberg and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to capital improvements; authorizing the issuance of state bonds;
1.3 appropriating money for the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center arena.

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

1.5 Section 1. **DULUTH ENTERTAINMENT AND CONVENTION CENTER.**

1.6 Subdivision 1. **Appropriation.** \$37,932,000 is appropriated from the bond proceeds
1.7 fund to the commissioner of employment and economic development for a grant to the
1.8 Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center Authority to design, construct, furnish, and
1.9 equip renovations to the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center. The renovations
1.10 must include an approximately 217,446 square foot arena with an ice sheet of at least 200
1.11 feet by 85 feet; trade show and concert space; seating capacity of at least 6,630 with
1.12 suites, club seats, and concessions; state-of-the-art locker and training facilities; and
1.13 accessible and expanded media space.

1.14 Subd. 2. **Bond sale.** To provide the money appropriated in this act from the bond
1.15 proceeds fund, the commissioner of finance shall sell and issue bonds of the state in an
1.16 amount up to \$37,932,000 in the manner, upon the terms, and with the effect prescribed by
1.17 Minnesota Statutes, sections 16A.631 to 16A.675, and by the Minnesota Constitution,
1.18 article XI, sections 4 to 7.

1.19 Subd. 3. **Activities; contracts.** The legislature recognizes that the authority has
1.20 all powers necessary or convenient to design, construct, furnish, equip, and improve the
1.21 Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center, including a new arena, and may enter into
1.22 contracts that are, in its judgment, in the best interests of the public for those purposes.
1.23 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the authority may adopt a fair and competitive

2.1 design and construction procurement process as determined by the authority to be in
2.2 the public interest in connection with the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center
2.3 improvements.

2.4 Sec. 2. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2.5 This act is effective the day following final enactment.