

This Document can be made available in alternative formats upon request

State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH  
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **691**

February 8, 2007

Authored by Erickson and Hackbarth

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 transportation; appropriating money for highways, local roads, and  
1.3 bridges; requiring report.

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

1.5 Section 1. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

1.6 Subdivision 1. General fund appropriation. \$300,000,000 is appropriated to the  
1.7 commissioner of transportation in fiscal year 2008 from the general fund for the purposes  
1.8 specified in this section. This appropriation is available until spent and does not lapse.

1.9 Subd. 2. Local bridges. (a) Of the appropriation in subdivision 1, \$25,000,000 is  
1.10 for local bridge replacement and rehabilitation to match federal money and to replace or  
1.11 rehabilitate local deficient bridges.

1.12 (b) Political subdivisions may use grants made under this section to construct  
1.13 or reconstruct bridges, including:

1.14 (1) matching federal-aid grants to construct or reconstruct key bridges;

1.15 (2) paying the costs of preliminary engineering and environmental studies authorized  
1.16 under Minnesota Statutes, section 174.50, subdivision 6a;

1.17 (3) paying the costs to abandon an existing bridge that is deficient and in need of  
1.18 replacement, but where no replacement will be made; and

1.19 (4) paying the costs to construct a road or street to facilitate the abandonment of  
1.20 an existing bridge determined by the commissioner to be deficient, if the commissioner  
1.21 determines that construction of the road or street is more cost-efficient than the  
1.22 replacement of the existing bridge.

2.1            Subd. 3. **Local roads.** Of the appropriation in subdivision 1, \$25,000,000 is for the  
2.2 local road improvement program. Of this amount, \$12,500,000 is for construction and  
2.3 reconstruction of local roads with statewide or regional significance under Minnesota  
2.4 Statutes, section 174.52, subdivision 4, and \$12,500,000 is for grants to counties to assist  
2.5 in paying the costs of capital improvement projects on county state-aid highways under  
2.6 Minnesota Statutes, section 174.52, subdivision 4a.

2.7            Subd. 4. **Trunk highway projects.** (a) Of the appropriation in subdivision  
2.8 1, \$250,000,000 is to accelerate completion of priority trunk highway construction,  
2.9 reconstruction, and improvement projects that are included in the 2007-2009 state  
2.10 transportation improvement program.

2.11            (b) In spending the appropriation under paragraph (a), the commissioner shall,  
2.12 to the maximum feasible extent, allocate spending equally between the Department of  
2.13 Transportation metropolitan district and the remainder of the state.

2.14            (c) The commissioner may use up to \$37,500,000 of the appropriation under  
2.15 paragraph (a) for program delivery.

2.16            (d) The commissioner shall report to the committees having jurisdiction over  
2.17 transportation finance in the senate and house of representatives, no later than January 15  
2.18 of each year until the appropriation in paragraph (a) is fully expended, on projects selected  
2.19 to be funded by this appropriation. The report must include the geographic distribution  
2.20 of the selected projects and their adherence to the criteria stated in this section, and the  
2.21 location and cost of each project.