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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **1715**

March 5, 2007

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

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; appropriating money to conduct a study and
1.3 develop a plan for establishment of a Greenleaf, Cedar, and Sioux Lakes Area
1.4 Conservation District in McLeod and Meeker Counties.

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

1.6 Section 1. **CONSERVATION DISTRICT; GREENLEAF, CEDAR, AND SIOUX**
1.7 **LAKES AREA; MCLEOD AND MEEKER COUNTIES; APPROPRIATION.**

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Appropriation.** \$100,000 in fiscal year 2008 is appropriated from
1.9 the general fund to the mid MN Development Commission in consultation with the
1.10 Department of Natural Resources to develop a conservation district plan to include
1.11 provision for a strategic multiple partnership approach to protection and management of
1.12 natural resources, recreational opportunities, and private agricultural production within
1.13 the Greenleaf, Cedar, and Sioux Lakes area of McLeod and Meeker Counties with
1.14 implementation of Greenleaf State Park serving as an anchor to a larger conservation and
1.15 recreation complex. This is a onetime appropriation.

1.16 Subd. 2. **Advisory committee.** The mid MN Development Commission will
1.17 appoint a coordinator and a citizen's advisory committee to assist with the development
1.18 of the plan under subdivision 1 and implementation of a community outreach program.
1.19 The commissioner shall appoint members to the citizen's advisory committee representing
1.20 local governments, local landowners, state agencies, federal agencies, private land
1.21 conservation organizations, outdoor recreation organizations, wildlife organizations, and
1.22 other parties. The committee shall serve without compensation and is exempt from
1.23 Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059.

2.1 Subd. 3. **Draft outline; report.** By November 15, 2007, the commissioner
2.2 shall complete a draft outline and scope of study for the conservation district plan and
2.3 community outreach program and submit the outline to the legislature. By February 15,
2.4 2009, the commissioner must complete the final conservation district plan for the area and
2.5 submit a report to the governor and the legislature with recommendations for financing
2.6 and implementing the plan.