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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION**

HOUSE FILE No. 3569

February 28, 2008

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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 workers' health; directing the University of Minnesota to study
1.3 workers' health including lung health; appropriating money.

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

1.5 Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA WORKERS'**
1.6 **HEALTH STUDY.**

1.7 (a) \$4,900,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the
1.8 University of Minnesota for fiscal year 2009 for a study of workers' health. The study
1.9 must include a comprehensive science and evidence-based study of workers' lung health.
1.10 The university, as the lead agency, must develop, conduct and coordinate the study in
1.11 partnership with the Department of Health, the Department of Natural Resources, the
1.12 Pollution Control Agency, business and industry, local health providers and organizations,
1.13 other affected groups, and other state, federal, and local agencies. This is a onetime
1.14 appropriation that does not cancel and is available until expended.

1.15 (b) At a minimum, the study funded under this section must include industry-specific
1.16 worker mortality and morbidity studies, clinical disease studies, exposure assessments,
1.17 case-control screening of current and former workers, and environmental studies that
1.18 assess health impacts on workers and communities. The university must begin the studies
1.19 in 2008 and complete them no later than 2013. The university, in conjunction with
1.20 its partners in the workers' health study, must report annually to the committees of the
1.21 legislature with responsibility for health and workers' safety until the study is completed.
1.22 Each annual report must present the preliminary findings of the workers' health studies
1.23 and recommendations based on those findings.