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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION**

HOUSE FILE No. 3661

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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 energy; creating coordinated process for reducing greenhouse gas
1.3 emissions; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 216H.

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

1.5 Section 1. **[216H.07] GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION**
1.6 **ATTAINMENT; POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS.**

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For the purpose of this section, the terms defined in
1.8 this subdivision have the meanings given them.

1.9 (b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department of Commerce.

1.10 (c) "Reductions" means the greenhouse gas emissions reductions goals specified in
1.11 section 216H.02, subdivision 1.

1.12 Subd. 2. **Purpose.** This section is intended to create a nonexclusive, regular,
1.13 mandated process for the state to develop policies to attain the greenhouse gas reduction
1.14 goals specified in section 216H.02.

1.15 Subd. 3. **Quantification of annual reduction required.** By November 1 of each
1.16 year, the commissioner shall provide to the legislature and also disseminate through
1.17 available public channels the reductions required in each year until 2050. The reductions
1.18 must be based on and supported by the best available technical evidence that also must be
1.19 provided to the legislature and publicly disseminated in easily understood nontechnical
1.20 terms.

1.21 Subd. 4. **Annual strategic plan.** The commissioner shall include in the annual
1.22 report under subdivision 3 a detailed plan for attaining the reductions. The plan must
1.23 include draft legislation, including any budget requests, that are necessary for reduction
1.24 attainment. The plan must specify the reductions that are required for a year and the

2.1 reductions attributable to each component of the plan proposed to attain the reduction.

2.2 The plan must be based on the principles specified in subdivision 5.

2.3 Subd. 5. **Reduction principles.** The reduction plan must be based on the following
2.4 principles:

2.5 (1) the reductions must be attained;

2.6 (2) the reductions must be attained on a schedule that keeps pace with the reduction
2.7 timetable required by section 216H.02, subdivision 1;

2.8 (3) conservation, including ceasing some activities, doing some activities less, and
2.9 doing some activities more energy efficiently, is the first choice for reduction;

2.10 (4) public education is a key component;

2.11 (5) all levels of government should lead by example; and

2.12 (6) strategies that may lead to economic dislocation should be phased in and should
2.13 be coupled with strategies that address the dislocation.

2.14 Subd. 6. **Public education.** The commissioner shall include in every plan a public
2.15 education component. The education component must provide the latest evidence on
2.16 the effects of greenhouse gas emissions. The education component must stress that
2.17 the reductions not only seek to reduce greenhouse gas emissions but also to conserve
2.18 nonrenewable fossil fuel resources that have a dwindling supply. The fact that this
2.19 dwindling supply may ultimately lead to the elimination of certain activities that are
2.20 proposed to be limited by a plan must be emphasized.

2.21 Subd. 7. **Other states.** The commissioner shall include in the plan a review of
2.22 the activities of other states to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including a review of
2.23 budgetary initiatives to achieve reductions.

2.24 Subd. 8. **Stakeholder involvement.** The commissioner shall allow for public
2.25 comment on the plan and shall seek advice from interested persons in its development.
2.26 The commissioner shall make a formal presentation of the plan to the Legislative Electric
2.27 Energy Task Force at a meeting called for that purpose in November of each year. The
2.28 commissioner shall provide the task force members with a preliminary draft plan by
2.29 October 1 of each year.