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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **3664**

March 3, 2008

Authored by Erickson

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 game and fish; modifying the dates and times fish houses, dark houses,
1.3 and other shelters may be left on the ice; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006,
1.4 section 97C.355, subdivision 7.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 97C.355, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 7. **Dates and times houses may remain on ice.** (a) Except as provided
1.8 in paragraph (d), a shelter, including a fish house or dark house, may not be on the ice
1.9 between 12:00 a.m. and one hour before sunrise after the following dates:

1.10 (1) the last day of February, for state waters south of a line starting at the
1.11 Minnesota-North Dakota border and formed by rights-of-way of U.S. Route No. 10, then
1.12 east along U.S. Route No. 10 to Trunk Highway No. 34, then east along Trunk Highway
1.13 No. 34 to Trunk Highway No. 200, then east along Trunk Highway No. 200 to U.S. Route
1.14 No. 2, then east along U.S. Route No. 2 to the Minnesota-Wisconsin border; and

1.15 (2) March 15, for other state waters.

1.16 A shelter, including a fish house or dark house, on the ice in violation of this
1.17 subdivision is subject to the enforcement provisions of paragraph (b). The commissioner
1.18 may, by rule, change the dates in this paragraph for any part of state waters. Copies of
1.19 the rule must be conspicuously posted on the shores of the waters as prescribed by the
1.20 commissioner.

1.21 (b) A conservation officer must confiscate a fish house, dark house, or shelter in
1.22 violation of paragraph (a). The officer may remove, burn, or destroy the house or shelter.
1.23 The officer shall seize the contents of the house or shelter and hold them for 60 days. If the

2.1 seized articles have not been claimed by the owner, they may be retained for the use of the
2.2 division or sold at the highest price obtainable in a manner prescribed by the commissioner.

2.3 (c) When the last day of February, under paragraph (a), clause (1), or March 15,
2.4 under paragraph (a), clause (2), falls on a Thursday, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, a shelter,
2.5 including a fish house or dark house, may be on the ice ~~between 12:00 a.m. and one hour~~
2.6 ~~before sunrise~~ until 12:00 a.m. the following Monday.

2.7 (d) A person may have a shelter, including a fish house or dark house, on the ice
2.8 between 12:00 a.m. and one hour before sunrise on waters within the area prescribed in
2.9 paragraph (a), clause (2), but the house or shelter may not be unattended during those
2.10 hours.