

This Document can be made available
in alternative formats upon request

State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SIXTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. 658

February 9, 2009

Authored by Hackbarth and Dill

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment Policy and Oversight

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; providing for citizen oversight of certain natural
1.3 resource fund accounts; requiring reports; proposing coding for new law in
1.4 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 84.

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

1.6 Section 1. **[84.995] NATURAL RESOURCES FUND; BUDGETARY**
1.7 **OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.**

1.8 Subdivision 1. Natural resources fund annual reports. (a) By December 15
1.9 each year, the commissioner shall submit to the legislative committees and divisions
1.10 having jurisdiction over appropriations and the environment and natural resources reports
1.11 on each of the following:

1.12 (1) the purposes for which expenditures were made from the following:

1.13 (i) the off-highway vehicle damage account under section 84.780;

1.14 (ii) the off-highway motorcycle account under section 84.794;

1.15 (iii) the off-road vehicle account under section 84.803;

1.16 (iv) the snowmobile trails and enforcement account under section 84.83;

1.17 (v) the all-terrain vehicle account under section 84.927;

1.18 (vi) the cross-country ski account under section 85.43;

1.19 (vii) the horse trails account under section 85.46, subdivision 6;

1.20 (viii) the water recreation account under section 86B.706; and

1.21 (ix) deposits to the natural resources fund under section 297A.94, paragraph (e),

1.22 clauses (2) to (5);

1.23 (2) outcome goals for the expenditures from the natural resources fund accounts

1.24 listed under clause (1); and

2.1 (3) a summary and comments of citizen oversight committee reviews under
2.2 subdivision 3.

2.3 (b) The reports must include the commissioner's recommendations, if any, for
2.4 changes in the laws relating to expenditures from and user fees and other revenue credited
2.5 to the accounts under paragraph (a), clause (1).

2.6 Subd. 2. **Budgetary Oversight Committee.** (a) The chairs of each of the
2.7 subcommittees under subdivision 3 form the Budgetary Oversight Committee to coordinate
2.8 the integration of the subcommittee reports into an annual report to the legislature;
2.9 recommend changes on a broad level in policies, activities, and revenue enhancements
2.10 or reductions; provide a forum to address issues that transcend the subcommittees; and
2.11 submit a report for any subcommittee that fails to submit its report in a timely manner.

2.12 (b) The Budgetary Oversight Committee shall develop recommendations for a
2.13 biennial budget plan and report for expenditures on natural resource activities funded in
2.14 whole or in part by user fees. By August 15 of each even-numbered year, the committee
2.15 shall submit the budget plan recommendations to the commissioner and to the senate
2.16 and house of representatives committees and divisions with jurisdiction over natural
2.17 resources finance.

2.18 (c) The commissioner shall appoint the chair of the Budgetary Oversight Committee.

2.19 (d) The Budgetary Oversight Committee must make recommendations to the
2.20 commissioner and to the senate and house of representatives committees and divisions
2.21 with jurisdiction over natural resources finance for outcome goals from expenditures.

2.22 (e) Notwithstanding section 15.059, subdivision 5, or other law to the contrary, the
2.23 Budgetary Oversight Committee and subcommittees under subdivision 3 do not expire.

2.24 Subd. 3. **Citizen oversight subcommittees.** (a) The commissioner shall appoint
2.25 subcommittees of affected persons to review the reports prepared under subdivision 1,
2.26 paragraph (a), clause (1); review the proposed work plans and budgets for the coming
2.27 year; propose changes in policies, activities, and revenue enhancements or reductions;
2.28 review other relevant information; and make recommendations to the legislature and the
2.29 commissioner for improvements in the management and use of money in the natural
2.30 resources fund accounts specified under subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (1).

2.31 (b) The commissioner shall appoint the following subcommittees, each comprised of
2.32 at least three affected persons who are not legislators or employees of the Department of
2.33 Natural Resources:

2.34 (1) an Off-Highway Vehicle Damage Subcommittee to review funding from the
2.35 off-highway vehicle damage account under section 84.780;

3.1 (2) an Off-Highway Motorcycle Subcommittee to review funding from the
3.2 off-highway motorcycle account under section 84.794;

3.3 (3) an Off-Road Vehicle Subcommittee to review funding from the off-road vehicle
3.4 account under section 84.803;

3.5 (4) a Snowmobile Subcommittee to review funding from the snowmobile trails and
3.6 enforcement account under section 84.83;

3.7 (5) an All-Terrain Vehicle Subcommittee to review funding from the all-terrain
3.8 vehicle account under section 84.927;

3.9 (6) a Cross-Country Ski Subcommittee to review funding from the cross-country
3.10 ski account under section 85.43;

3.11 (7) a Horse Trails Subcommittee to review funding from the horse trails account
3.12 under section 85.46, subdivision 6;

3.13 (8) a Water Recreation Subcommittee to review funding from the water recreation
3.14 account under section 86B.706; and

3.15 (9) a Lottery in Lieu Subcommittee to review funding from deposits made to the
3.16 natural resources fund under section 297A.94, paragraph (e), clauses (2) to (5).

3.17 (c) Each subcommittee shall select its own chair.

3.18 (d) The commissioner shall provide a subcommittee with any additional information
3.19 requested, with sufficient specificity to permit a detailed review of the expenditures and
3.20 recipients of money from the respective account of the subcommittee.