

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1166

DATE: May 11, 2004

Version: Third engrossment

Authors: Hackbarth and others

Subject: Sales tax percentage for natural resources

Analyst: John Helland
Pat Dalton

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

Creates a constitutional amendment proposed to the voters in the 2004 general election for one-eighth of one percent of the existing sales tax to be dedicated to protect and enhance game and fish habitat and provide hunter and angler access.

Section

Article 1 - Constitutional Amendment

1 Constitutional amendment. Provides a dedication of one-eighth of one percent of the sales and use tax, beginning July 1, 2007, for the following:

- to improve, enhance or protect game and fish habitat; and
- provide hunter and angler access.

Creates a separate heritage enhancement fund in the state treasury for the above purposes. States that the dedicated money must only supplement, not substitute for, traditional sources of funding these purposes. Provides that any land acquired with this money must be open to public taking of fish and game.

2 Submission to voters. States the question for voter election in 2004.

3 Effective date. Sections 1 and 2 are effective for sales and use tax receipts collected after

Section

June 30, 2007.

Article 2 - Conforming Changes

1 1 Heritage enhancement fund and council.

Subd. 1. Heritage enhancement fund. Establishes the fund of which 99 percent of the money appropriated must be spent on game and fish projects on public and private lands.

Subd. 2. Heritage enhancement council. Creates an 11-member heritage enhancement council, including two members from each legislative body as nonvoting members, and three citizens by each legislative body and one citizen by the governor. Members shall elect a chair and terms are for two years.

Subd. 3. Duties of the council. Provides for council duties, including the development of a biennial budget plan for fund expenditures and the requirement of a work program for any entity receiving fund money for a project.

Subd. 4. Council administration. Allows permanent employees to be hired for council duties. Requires state agencies to provide staff and data assistance as requested by the council. States that council administrative expenses will be paid from the fund. Prohibits a council member to vote in matters involving a personal financial or other type of conflict of interest.

2 Deposit of revenues. Modifies the deposit of sales and use tax revenue provision to allow the revenues generated from one-eighth of one percent of the sales tax to be deposited in the heritage enhancement fund created in this bill.

3 Effective date. Article 2 is effective July 1, 2007, if the voters approve the constitutional amendment in article 1.