

1.1 moves to amend H.F. No. 597 as follows:

1.2 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.3 "Section 1. **LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION GRANT PROGRAM.**

1.4 Subdivision 1. Definitions. For the purpose of this section, the following terms have
1.5 the meanings given:

1.6 (1) "climate change" means a change in global or regional climate patterns associated
1.7 with increased levels of greenhouse gas emissions entering the atmosphere largely as a
1.8 result of human activity;

1.9 (2) "commissioner" means the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency;

1.10 (3) "eligible applicant" means a political subdivision, an organization exempt from
1.11 taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or an educational institution;

1.12 (4) "greenhouse gas emission" means an emission of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous
1.13 oxide, chlorofluorocarbons, hydrofluorocarbons, sulfur hexafluoride, and other gases that
1.14 trap heat in the atmosphere;

1.15 (5) "local jurisdiction" means the geographical area in which grant activities are to take
1.16 place; and

1.17 (6) "political subdivision" means:

1.18 (i) a county, home rule charter and statutory city or town, regional development
1.19 commission established under Minnesota Statutes, section 462.387, or any other local
1.20 political subdivision; or

1.21 (ii) a Tribal government, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.64, subdivision

1.22 4.

2.1 Subd. 2. **Establishment.** The commissioner must establish a local climate action grant
2.2 program in the Pollution Control Agency. The purpose of the program is to provide grants
2.3 to support local jurisdictions to address climate change by developing and implementing
2.4 plans of action or creating new organizations and institutions to devise policies and programs
2.5 that:

2.6 (1) enable local jurisdictions to adapt to extreme weather events and a changing climate;

2.7 or

2.8 (2) reduce the local jurisdiction's contributions to the causes of climate change.

2.9 Subd. 3. **Application.** (a) Application for a grant under this section must be made to the
2.10 commissioner on a form developed by the commissioner. The commissioner must develop
2.11 procedures for soliciting and reviewing applications and awarding grants under this section.

2.12 (b) Eligible applicants for a grant under this section must be located in or conduct the
2.13 preponderance of their work in the local jurisdiction where the grant activities are to take
2.14 place.

2.15 Subd. 4. **Awarding grants.** In awarding grants under this section, the commissioner
2.16 must give preference to proposals that seek to involve a broad array of community residents,
2.17 organizations, and institutions in the local jurisdiction's efforts to address climate change.

2.18 Subd. 5. **Grant amounts.** (a) No grant awarded under this section may exceed \$50,000.

2.19 (b) A grant awarded under this section for activities taking place in a local jurisdiction
2.20 whose population equals or exceeds 20,000 must be matched 50 percent with local funds.

2.21 (c) A grant awarded under this section for activities taking place in a local jurisdiction
2.22 whose population is under 20,000 must be matched a minimum of five percent with local
2.23 funds or equivalent in-kind services.

2.24 Subd. 6. **Contract; greenhouse gas emissions data.** The commissioner shall contract
2.25 with an independent consultant to estimate the annual amount of greenhouse gas emissions
2.26 generated within those political subdivisions awarded a grant under this section that the
2.27 commissioner determines need the data in order to carry out the proposed grant activities.
2.28 The information must contain emissions data for the most recent three years available, and
2.29 must conform with the ICLEI U.S. Community Protocol for Accounting and Reporting of
2.30 Greenhouse Gas Emissions, including, at a minimum, the Basic Emissions Generating
2.31 Activities described therein.

2.32 Subd. 7. **Technical assistance.** The Pollution Control Agency shall provide directly or
2.33 contract with an entity outside the agency to provide technical assistance to applicants

3.1 proposing to develop an action plan under this section, including greenhouse gas emissions
 3.2 estimates developed under subdivision 6, and examples of actions taken and plans developed
 3.3 by other local communities in Minnesota and elsewhere.

3.4 Subd. 8. **Eligible expenditures.** Appropriations made to support the activities of this
 3.5 section may be used only to:

3.6 (1) provide grants as specified in this section;

3.7 (2) pay a consultant for contracted services provided under subdivisions 6 and 7; and

3.8 (3) reimburse the reasonable expenses of the Pollution Control Agency to provide
 3.9 technical assistance to applicants and to administer the grant program.

3.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.11 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

3.12 \$5,500,000 in fiscal year 2024 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner
 3.13 of the Pollution Control Agency to award local climate action grants under section 1. This
 3.14 is a onetime appropriation and is available until December 31, 2025."

3.15 Delete the title and insert:

3.16 "A bill for an act
 3.17 relating to climate change; establishing grant program to provide financial assistance
 3.18 to political subdivisions to address climate change; appropriating money."