

Subject Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

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Overview

This bill would propose a constitutional amendment in the 2024 general election that would increase the amount of lottery proceeds dedicated to the environment and natural resources trust fund as well as make changes to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR).

The environment and natural resources trust fund is a constitutionally dedicated fund that may be spent only on the “protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources.” The fund currently receives 40 percent of the net proceeds from the state lottery. The LCCMR is tasked with making recommendations on how money in the environment and natural resources trust fund is spent.

Article 1: Constitutional Amendment

Section Description – Article 1: Constitutional Amendment

1 Constitutional amendment proposed.

Proposes a constitutional amendment that would increase the amount of lottery proceeds dedicated to the environment and natural resources trust fund from 40 to 50 percent and dedicate the proceeds until 2050. The proposed amendment would also prohibit the assets in the fund from being used to pay the principal or interest of any bonds or from being used to pay any costs related to the construction, repair, improvement, or operation of wastewater facilities or systems.

2 Submission to voters.

States the question for the proposed environment and natural resources trust fund amendment that would be submitted to the voters in the 2024 general election.

Article 2: Statutory Changes

Section Description – Article 2: Statutory Changes

1 Membership.

Requires citizen members of the LCCMR appointed by the governor to reside in different geographic regions of the state with no more than two citizen members from the seven-county metropolitan area.

2 Payment; unclaimed prizes.

Requires all unclaimed prize money from the lottery to be transferred to the environment and natural resources trust fund each fiscal year. Under current law, it is transferred to the general fund.



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