Overview

This bill provides grants to watershed districts, lake improvement districts, soil and water conservation districts, watershed management organizations, and certain joint powers boards to demonstrate alternative models for managing natural resources at the local level.

1 Special purpose district pilot projects.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines "board," "special purpose district," (watershed district, soil and water conservation district, lake improvement district, watershed management organization, and joint powers board of the same) and "governing body."

Subd. 2. Alternative natural resource management models. Requires the board of government innovation and cooperation (board), in cooperation with the board of water and soil resources, to solicit proposals from two or more special purpose districts for pilot projects that demonstrate alternative models for managing natural resources at the local level.

Allows up to $100,000 per grant proposal, and requires payment from the existing general fund obligation to the board.

Subd. 3. Implementation. Provides that the board, cooperating with the board of water and soil resources, may approve the implementation of a project model if it has been approved by a majority vote of the special purpose district governing bodies.

Subd. 4. Report to the legislature. Requires an annual report to the legislature on this act's provisions, with a recommendation by late 2003 on the viability of implementing alternative models.

2 Effective date. Day after enactment.