

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-SECOND SESSION

S.F. No. 3044

(SENATE AUTHORS: WEBER, Wiger and Eaton)

DATE
02/10/2022

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OFFICIAL STATUS
Introduction and first reading
Referred to Environment and Natural Resources Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to water; appropriating money to enhance efforts to keep water on the
1.3 land; requiring a report.

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

1.5 Section 1. **ENHANCE EFFORTS TO KEEP WATER ON THE LAND;**
1.6 **APPROPRIATION.**

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Appropriation.** \$..... in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the general
1.8 fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to increase water storage in strategic locations
1.9 across the state according to the plan developed under subdivision 2. This is a onetime
1.10 appropriation.

1.11 Subd. 2. **Plan.** The Board of Water and Soil Resources, in consultation with the
1.12 commissioner of agriculture, the commissioner of natural resources, and the Red River
1.13 Watershed Management Board, must develop a plan to increase water storage in strategic
1.14 locations across the state. The plan must:

1.15 (1) provide money to projects in Area II, the Red River Valley, the Greater Blue Earth
1.16 River basin, and other areas of the state that are most likely to benefit from water storage
1.17 projects;

1.18 (2) provide money to both existing programs and new projects that enhance flood control
1.19 in a manner that comprehensively addresses the state's water storage needs;

1.20 (3) provide money to projects that improve the quality of waters of the state through
1.21 research, implementation, and outreach;

2.1 (4) identify peak water storage structure opportunities in the most critical areas of the
2.2 state where this information has not already been developed;

2.3 (5) identify the most appropriate types of peak water storage structures for each type of
2.4 landscape found in the state;

2.5 (6) facilitate completion of any necessary assessments for enhancing water storage,
2.6 including cost-benefit analyses of conservation drainage management practices based on
2.7 expertise from watershed districts, soil and water conservation districts, and published
2.8 technical information; and

2.9 (7) identify methods of encouraging landowner adoption of best management practices
2.10 for enhancing water storage as well as how to build those incentives into the One Watershed,
2.11 One Plan program.

2.12 Subd. 3. **Report.** By August 1, 2023, the Board of Water and Soil Resources must submit
2.13 the plan developed under subdivision 2 to the chairs and ranking minority members of the
2.14 house of representatives and senate committees and divisions with jurisdiction over
2.15 agriculture and environment and natural resources policy.