



S.F. No. 2077 – Governor’s Environment and Natural Resources Budget

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Article 1 – Appropriations

[Article 1 is not summarized because it consists entirely of appropriations]

Article 2 – Environment and Natural Resources Policy

Section 1 [State Park Permit Fee Increases] increases the fees for state park permits.

Section 2 [Watercraft Surcharge Increases] increases the aquatic invasive species surcharge for watercraft effective January 1, 2026. Replaces the current flat surcharge with a surcharge whose amount depends on the size and use of the watercraft.

Section 3 [Water Use Permit Fee Increases] increases water-use permit fees, effective January 1, 2026.

Section 4 [Water Appropriation Fee Increase] increases the water appropriation permit fee, effective January 1, 2026.

Section 5 [Definition of Commissioner] defines “commissioner” as the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) for purposes of Chapter 115 of Minnesota Statutes.

Section 6 [Definition of Release] gives “release” the same meaning in Chapter 115 as it has in the Minnesota Environmental Response and Liability Act (MERLA), Chapter 115B.

Section 7 [Definition of Respond or Response] gives “respond” or “response” a similar meaning in Chapter 115 as similar terms have in MERLA.



Section 8 [Conforming Change] makes a change to conform to statutory changes made in connection with the e-waste program established in sections 11 through 20. For a summary of the e-waste provisions, see the summary of SF 1690.

Section 9 [Recovery of Costs for Responding to Releases] allows PCA and affected local governments to recover reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in responding to releases or threatened releases of pollutants or contaminants when those costs are not recoverable under MERLA.

Section 10 [Conforming Change] makes a change to conform to statutory changes made in connection with the e-waste program established in sections 11 through 20. For a summary of the e-waste provisions, see the summary of SF 1690.

Sections 11 through 20 [E-Waste Stewardship] establishes an e-waste and battery stewardship program. For a summary of these provisions, see the summary of SF 1690.

Section 21 [Statutory CLIF Appropriation] creates a statutory appropriation of the money in the closed landfill investment fund to the PCA to implement the closed landfill program. Requires the commissioner of management and budget to allocate amounts available for this purpose in each biennium based on work plans submitted by the PCA.

Section 22 [Definition of Side-Mounted Fuel Tank] adds a definition of “side-mounted fuel tank” to the petroleum tank release cleanup statutes (Chapter 115C).

Section 23 [Definition of Tank Includes Side-Mounted Fuel Tanks] clarifies that side-mounted fuel tanks are included in the petroleum tank release cleanup statutes’ definition of “tank.”

Section 24 [Corrective Action Costs from Side-Mounted Fuel Tanks Not Reimbursable] prohibits reimbursement under the petroleum tank release cleanup program for corrective action costs resulting from a release from a side-mounted fuel tank.

Section 25 [Permitting Efficiency Consultants] requires the PCA to credential consultants who meet certain permit application performance standards and to include information about those consultants in its annual permitting efficiency report.

Section 26 [Citations for Failure to Produce Permitting Info] authorizes the PCA to issue citations for failure to produce information or reports necessary for developing and reissuing permits and permit amendments.

Section 27 [Penalty Amounts for Failure to Produce Permitting Info Citations] sets penalty amounts for failing to provide information or reports necessary for developing and reissuing permits and permitting amendments. The penalty amounts begin at \$50 per day and eventually rise to \$500 per day, up to a maximum of \$20,000.

Section 28 [Projects to Address Emerging Contaminants Favored] requires the PCA to award extra points to a proposal by a municipality applying for financial assistance for a project to address emerging contaminants.

Section 29 [Conforming Change] makes a change to conform to statutory changes made in connection with the e-waste program established in sections 11 through 20. For a summary of the e-waste provisions, see the summary of SF 1690.

Section 30 [Ban on Batteries Containing Mercury] bans batteries containing mercury. This is part of the e-waste program established in sections 11 through 20. For a summary of the e-waste provisions, see the summary of SF 1690.

Section 31 [State Parks and Trails License Plate Minimum Contribution] increases the state parks and trails license plate minimum contribution from \$60 to \$70.

Section 32 [Use of Clean Water Revolving Loan] authorizes the clean water revolving fund to be used to provide principal forgiveness or grants, where permissible under federal law.

Section 33 [Met Council Loans to Regional Parks Implementing Agencies] authorizes the Metropolitan Council to make interest free loans to regional parks implementing agencies for the purchase of property within the boundaries of the regional recreation open space system.

Section 34 [Tribes Are Eligible for Community Tree Planting Grants] makes Tribal governments eligible for community tree planting grants.

Section 35 [Inflow and Infiltration Grant Modifications] modifies the affordability criteria for metropolitan cities' inflow and infiltration grants.

Section 36 [Modification of Appropriation for Firefighting Turnout Gear Report] extends a previous appropriation for a report on firefighter turnout gear and biomonitoring and increases the portion of the appropriation that may be used for biomonitoring.

Section 37 [Administration of Loans to Phase Out High Polluting Equipment] modifies an appropriation for zero-interest loans to phase out high-polluting equipment, products, and processes so that it is administered through the small business environmental improvement loan program. Provides for the transfer of several previous appropriations to the environmental fund.

Section 38 [Repealer] repeals statutes that are superseded by the establishment of the e-waste program in sections 11 through 20. For a summary of the e-waste provisions, see the summary of SF 1690.