S.F. No. 1754 – Certain state-owned land in the Cloquet Forestry Center transferal to the University of Minnesota

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This bill provides for the state to transfer ownership of the Cloquet Forestry Center to the University of Minnesota. The property has been improved with about $2,800,000 of state general obligation bond proceeds over the past 25 years through the Higher Education Asset Preservation program. Because the property has been improved with state general obligation bond proceeds, it is "state bond-financed property" and cannot be conveyed without meeting certain requirements. Section 2 of the bill makes an appropriation to defease outstanding bonds and to address other requirements.

Section 1 [Cloquet Forestry Center; Land Transfer] requires the commissioner of administration to convey all state-owned land within the Cloquet Forestry Center, in Carlton County on the Fond du Lac Reservation, to the University of Minnesota, for no consideration. Specifies that the conveyance must be in a form approved by the Attorney General. Provides a description of the land to be conveyed and allows the Attorney General to correct errors and ensure accuracy of the description.

This section is effective the day after enactment.

Section 2. [Appropriations] appropriates $1,300,000 in fiscal year 2026 from the general fund to the commissioner of management and budget to prepay and defease outstanding state general obligation bonds used to improve the University of Minnesota Cloquet Forestry Center and other associated financing costs. Includes technical provisions to remove the property from the status of "state bond-financed property."

This section is effective the day after enactment.