2015 MSBA Environment and Natural Resources Bill Summary
H.F. 846

Provisions Related to School Trust Lands

School Trust Lands Sales and Exchanges. $300,000 the first year and $300,000 second year are from the state forest suspense account in the permanent school fund for the school trust lands director to accelerate land exchanges, land sales, and commercial leasing of school trust lands and to identify, evaluate, and lease construction aggregate located on school trust lands. This appropriation is to be used for securing long-term economic return from the school trust lands consistent with fiduciary responsibilities and sound natural resources conservation and management principles.

Condemnation of School Trust Land. The purpose of this section is to extinguish the school trust interest in school trust lands where long-term economic return is prohibited by designation or policy while producing economic benefits for Minnesota’s public schools. For the purposes of satisfying the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 8, which limits the sale of school trust lands to a public sale, the commissioner of natural resources shall acquire school trust lands through condemnation.

Surplus State Land Sales. The school trust lands director shall identify, in consultation with the commissioner of natural resources, at least $5,000,000 in state-owned lands suitable for sale and sell at least $3 million by June 30, 2017.

School Trust Lands Director Location. Strikes the requirement that the Department of Administration shall provide office space for the director.

Indicates significant MSBA effort to enact provision