

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-SECOND SESSION**

S.F. No. 1630

(SENATE AUTHORS: MCEWEN)

DATE
03/01/2021

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Introduction and first reading
Referred to Energy and Utilities Finance and Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to climate change; amending state greenhouse gas reduction goals; requiring
1.3 governmental actions to be consistent with state greenhouse gas reduction goals;
1.4 increasing the frequency of a report; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, sections
1.5 216H.01, by adding subdivisions; 216H.02, subdivision 1, by adding a subdivision;
1.6 216H.07, subdivision 3.

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

1.8 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 216H.01, is amended by adding a subdivision
1.9 to read:

1.10 Subd. 1b. **Governmental action.** "Governmental action" means activities or projects
1.11 wholly or partially conducted, permitted, assisted, financed, regulated, or approved by a
1.12 governmental unit.

1.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

1.14 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 216H.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to
1.15 read:

1.16 Subd. 1c. **Governmental unit.** "Governmental unit" has the meaning given in section
1.17 116D.04, subdivision 1a.

1.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

1.19 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 216H.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to
1.20 read:

1.21 Subd. 1d. **Net zero.** "Net zero" means:

2.1 (1) statewide greenhouse gas emissions equal to zero; or

2.2 (2) the balance of annual statewide greenhouse gas emissions minus any terrestrial
 2.3 sequestration of those emissions equals zero or less.

2.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.5 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 216H.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to
 2.6 read:

2.7 **Subd. 3. Terrestrial sequestration.** "Terrestrial sequestration" means the amount of
 2.8 annual statewide greenhouse gas emissions that is removed from the atmosphere by plants
 2.9 and microorganisms located in Minnesota, excluding on active croplands, and stored in
 2.10 vegetation, biomass, and soils so as to prevent emissions from reaching the atmosphere, as
 2.11 estimated by the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency.

2.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.13 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 216H.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

2.14 Subdivision 1. **Greenhouse gas emissions-reduction goal.** (a) It is the goal of the state
 2.15 to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors producing those emissions
 2.16 to a level at least 15 percent below 2005 levels by 2015, to a level at least 30 percent below
 2.17 2005 levels by 2025, and to a level at least 80 percent below 2005 levels by 2050. by at
 2.18 least the following amounts, compared with the level of emissions in 2005:

2.19 (1) 15 percent by 2015;

2.20 (2) 30 percent by 2025;

2.21 (3) 45 percent by 2030; and

2.22 (4) to net zero by 2050.

2.23 (b) The levels shall targets must be reviewed based on the climate change action plan
 2.24 study, annually by the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, taking into account
 2.25 the latest scientific research on the impacts of climate change and strategies to reduce
 2.26 greenhouse gas emissions published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.
 2.27 The commissioner must forward any recommended changes to the targets to the chairs and
 2.28 ranking minority members of legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over climate
 2.29 change and environmental policy.

2.30 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.1 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 216H.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to
3.2 read:

3.3 Subd. 1a. **Greenhouse gas emissions reductions; governmental actions.** (a)
3.4 Governmental units must incorporate the statewide greenhouse gas emissions reductions
3.5 targets under subdivision 1 into all aspects of their activities, including but not limited to
3.6 planning, regulating, funding, and permitting.

3.7 (b) Governmental actions must be consistent with the statewide greenhouse gas emissions
3.8 reductions targets under subdivision 1.

3.9 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.10 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 216H.07, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

3.11 Subd. 3. ~~Biennial~~ Annual report. (a) By January 15 of each ~~odd-numbered~~ year, the
3.12 commissioners of commerce and the Pollution Control Agency ~~shall~~ must jointly report to
3.13 the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with primary policy
3.14 jurisdiction over energy and environmental issues the most recent and best available evidence
3.15 identifying the level of reductions already achieved and the level necessary to achieve the
3.16 reductions timetable in section 216H.02.

3.17 (b) The report must be in easily understood nontechnical terms.

3.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.