SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FIRST SESSION

S.F. No. 390

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to natural resources; creating the Reinvest in Fish Hatcheries
1.3 Citizen-Legislative Advisory Group; providing appointments; requiring a report.

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

1.5 Section 1. **REINVEST IN FISH HATCHERIES CITIZEN-LEGISLATIVE**

1.6 **ADVISORY GROUP.**

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Advisory group established; duties.** (a) A 12-member Reinvest in Fish

1.8 Hatcheries Citizen-Legislative Advisory Group is created to study the status of Minnesota's

1.9 fish hatchery system, the commissioner of natural resources' programs on stocking walleye

1.10 and other fish, and natural fish reproduction.

1.11 (b) The advisory group must study the public priorities and life cycle of Minnesota's

1.12 fish hatchery system and a cost-benefit analysis, consider issues of accountability and

1.13 transparency, and examine reviews and analyses of:

1.14 (1) the economics of Minnesota's fish- and angling-related activities and the tax revenue

1.15 to the state's general fund;

1.16 (2) any Department of Natural Resources surveys and polling of Minnesota angler

1.17 priorities;

1.18 (3) past and present fisheries long-range plans, legislative auditor reports, and other

1.19 fisheries plans; and

1.20 (4) the status of the following proposed, closed, and currently operating Minnesota fish

1.21 hatchery systems: Lanesboro, Crystal Springs, Bemidji, Brainerd, Detroit Lakes, French

2.1　River, Glenwood, Grand Rapids, New London, Park Rapids, Peterson, Pike River, Spire

2.2　Valley, St. Paul, Walker Lake, and Waterville.

2.3　　(c) The advisory group must prepare a plan and select fish hatchery sites for on-site

2.4　visits and reviews.

2.5　　(d) The advisory group must implement an action plan, develop priorities for fish

2.6　hatcheries, and review and recommend priorities of species for fish stocking to maximize

2.7　statewide opportunities for angling.

2.8　　(e) The advisory group must study alternatives to current fish hatchery stocking, including

2.9　private-sector stocking vendors.

2.10　　Subd. 2. **Consultation required.** (a) The advisory group must consult with advisory

2.11　committees of the commissioner of natural resources, game and fish oversight committees,

2.12　and fishery-related interests, including but not limited to counties, lake associations, small

2.13　businesses, resort owners, guides, and other industry-related interests.

2.14　　(b) In developing recommendations, the advisory group must consult with the

2.15　commissioner of natural resources, experts in managing a fishery, and affected stakeholders.

2.16　　Subd. 3. **Membership; appointments.** (a) The Reinvest in Fish Hatcheries

2.17　Citizen-Legislative Advisory Group has the following 12 members:

2.18　　(1) the chair of the house of representatives Environment and Natural Resources Finance

2.19　Division or a designee; a minority member of the Environment and Natural Resources

2.20　Finance Division appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives; two

2.21　public members appointed by the speaker of the house; and two public members appointed

2.22　by the minority leader of the house of representatives; and

2.23　　(2) the chair of the senate Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee or a

2.24　designee; a minority member of the Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee

2.25　appointed by the minority leader of the senate; two public members appointed by the majority

2.26　leader of the senate; and two public members appointed by the minority leader of the senate.

2.27　　(b) Appointments to the advisory group must be made by November 1, 2019. If a vacancy

2.28　occurs, the leader of the caucus in the body that appointed the vacating member or to which

2.29　the member belonged must fill the vacancy.

2.30　　Subd. 4. **Meetings; staff assistance.** (a) The chair of the senate committee with

2.31　jurisdiction over environment and natural resources finance must convene the first meeting

2.32　of the Reinvest in Fish Hatcheries Citizen-Legislative Advisory Group by December 15,

2.33　2019. The advisory group must elect cochairs, one who is a legislator and one who is a

3.1 public member, from among the members at the first meeting. The authority to convene

3.2 meetings shall alternate between the cochairs after each meeting. The Reinvest in Fish

3.3 Hatcheries Citizen-Legislative Advisory Group must meet periodically.

3.4 (b) The Legislative Coordinating Commission must provide technical and administrative

3.5 assistance to the advisory group upon request.

3.6 Subd. 5. **Compensation and expense reimbursement.** Public members of the advisory

3.7 group shall be compensated and reimbursed for expenses as provided in Minnesota Statutes,

3.8 section 15.059, subdivision 3.

3.9 Subd. 6. **Open meetings.** Meetings of the advisory group are subject to Minnesota

3.10 Statutes, section 3.055.

3.11 Subd. 7. **Report to legislature.** The Reinvest in Fish Hatcheries Citizen-Legislative

3.12 Advisory Group must submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the

3.13 legislative committees with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources policy and

3.14 finance no later than January 31, 2021, describing its work and recommendations. The

3.15 advisory group is encouraged to identify and include in the report any draft legislation,

3.16 including statutory changes and appropriations from any fund, needed to implement the

3.17 advisory group's recommendations.

3.18 Subd. 8. **Expiration.** This section expires June 30, 2021.

Section 1. 3