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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 1946

03/04/2021 Authored by Neu Brindley
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Human Services Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to human services; establishing homelessness program outcomes; requiring
1.3 a report; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256K.

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

1.5 Section 1. 256K.36 HOMELESSNESS PROGRAM OUTCOMES.

1.6 Subdivision 1. Requirements. The commissioner shall develop and implement a uniform
1.7 outcome measurement and reporting system for programs providing shelter or supportive
1.8 services for persons experiencing homelessness funded in whole or in part by state funds
1.9 including emergency services grants under section 256E.36, long-term homeless supportive
1.10 services under section 256K.26, and Homeless Youth Act grants under section 256K.45.

1.11 Subd. 2. Definitions. (a) For the purposes of this section, the terms defined in this
1.12 subdivision have the meanings given.

1.13 (b) "Exit" means to have not received shelter or supportive services under a program
1.14 providing shelter or supportive services for persons experiencing homelessness for 90
1.15 consecutive calendar days. The exit date is the last date of service.

1.16 (c) "Homeless" or "homelessness" means lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime
1.17 residence.

1.18 Subd. 3. Uniform outcome report card; reporting by commissioner. (a) By December
1.19 31 of each even-numbered year, the commissioner must report to the chairs and ranking
1.20 minority members of the committees of the house of representatives and the senate having
1.21 jurisdiction over homelessness policy and finance the following information separately for

2.1 each of the previous two fiscal or calendar years and for each program subject to the
2.2 requirements of subdivision 1:

2.3 (1) the total number of clients served;

2.4 (2) the total cost of the program;

2.5 (3) whether or not the number of Minnesota individuals and families experiencing
2.6 homelessness has decreased;

2.7 (4) whether or not there has been an increase in housing opportunities with supportive
2.8 services;

2.9 (5) whether or not there has been an increase in employability, self-sufficiency, and
2.10 other social outcomes for individuals and families experiencing homelessness;

2.11 (6) whether or not there has been a reduction in the inappropriate use of emergency
2.12 health care, shelter, child protection, corrections, and similar services used by people
2.13 experiencing homelessness;

2.14 (7) the total cost of the program per client; and

2.15 (8) the administrative cost of the program.

2.16 (b) The report to the legislature must contain client information by education level, race
2.17 and ethnicity, gender, and geography, and a comparison of exited clients who were in stable
2.18 housing and those who were not.

2.19 (c) The requirements of this section apply to programs administered directly by the
2.20 commissioner or administered by other organizations under a grant made by the department.

2.21 Subd. 4. **Data to commissioner; uniform report card.** (a) A recipient of a future or
2.22 past grant or direct appropriation made by or through the department must report data to
2.23 the commissioner by September 1 of each even-numbered year on each of the items in
2.24 subdivision 3 for each program it administers. The data must be in a format prescribed by
2.25 the commissioner.

2.26 (b) Beginning July 1, 2022, the commissioner shall provide notice to grant applicants
2.27 and recipients regarding the data collection and reporting requirements under this subdivision
2.28 and must provide technical assistance to applicants and recipients to assist in complying
2.29 with the requirements of this subdivision.

2.30 Subd. 5. **Information.** (a) The information collected and reported under subdivisions 3
2.31 and 4 shall be made available on the department's website.

3.1 (b) The commissioner must provide analysis of the data required under subdivision 3.

3.2 (c) The analysis under paragraph (b) must also include an executive summary of program
3.3 outcomes, including but not limited to the number of clients served, the cost per client,
3.4 whether or not there has been a decrease in the number of Minnesota individuals and families
3.5 experiencing homelessness, and a comparison of program outcomes by participant
3.6 characteristics.

3.7 (d) The data required in the comparative analysis under paragraph (c) must be presented
3.8 in both written and graphic formats.

3.9 Subd. 6. **Limitations on future appropriations.** (a) A program that is a recipient of
3.10 public funds and subject to the requirements of this section as of May 1, 2022, is not eligible
3.11 for additional state appropriations for any fiscal year beginning after June 30, 2023, unless
3.12 all of the reporting requirements under subdivision 4 have been satisfied.

3.13 (b) A program with an initial request for funds on or after July 1, 2022, may be considered
3.14 for receipt of public funds for the first two fiscal years only if a plan that demonstrates how
3.15 the data collection and reporting requirements under subdivision 4 will be met has been
3.16 submitted and approved by the commissioner. Any subsequent request for funds after an
3.17 initial request is subject to the requirements of paragraph (a).