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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. **3528**

02/17/2022 Authored by Wolgamott

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Higher Education Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to higher education; modifying hunger-free campus program requirements;
1.3 increasing funding for the hunger-free campus grant program; appropriating money;
1.4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 135A.137, subdivisions
1.5 3, 4; Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivisions
1.6 1, 35.

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

1.8 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 135A.137, subdivision 3, is
1.9 amended to read:

1.10 Subd. 3. **Competitive grant.** (a) Institutions eligible for a grant under this subdivision
1.11 include public postsecondary institutions and Tribal colleges.

1.12 (b) The commissioner shall establish a competitive grant program to distribute grants
1.13 to eligible institutions to meet and maintain the requirements under subdivision 1, paragraph

1.14 (a). Initial grants shall be made to institutions that have not earned the designation and
1.15 demonstrate a need for funding to meet the hunger-free campus designation requirements.

1.16 Sustaining grants shall be made to institutions that have earned the designation and
1.17 demonstrate both a partnership with a local food bank or organization that provides regular,
1.18 on-campus food distributions and a need for funds to maintain the requirements under
1.19 subdivision 1, paragraph (a).

1.20 (c) The commissioner shall give preference to applications for initial grants and to
1.21 applications from institutions with the highest number of federal Pell Grant eligible students
1.22 enrolled. The commissioner shall consider the head count at the institution when awarding
1.23 grants. ~~The maximum grant award for an initial institution designation is \$8,000. The~~
1.24 ~~maximum grant award for sustaining an institution designation is \$5,000.~~

2.1 (d) The commissioner, in collaboration with student associations representing eligible
 2.2 institutions, shall create an application process and establish selection criteria for awarding
 2.3 the grants.

2.4 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 135A.137, subdivision 4, is amended
 2.5 to read:

2.6 Subd. 4. **Grant requirements.** (a) An eligible institution that receives a grant under
 2.7 subdivision 3 must:

2.8 (1) use the grant funds to meet or maintain the minimum criteria of a hunger-free campus
 2.9 designation under subdivision 1; and

2.10 (2) match at least ~~50~~ 25 percent of the grant amount awarded with funds or in-kind
 2.11 resources.

2.12 (b) In addition to the requirements of paragraph (a), in order to receive a sustaining grant,
 2.13 an institution must demonstrate a partnership with a local food bank or organization or other
 2.14 source of funding that ensures regular, on-campus distributions.

2.15 Sec. 3. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivision 1, is
 2.16 amended to read:

| | | | |
|------|---|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 2.17 | | | <u>274,269,000</u> |
| 2.18 | Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation | \$ 271,702,000 | \$ <u>274,470,000</u> |

2.19 The amounts that may be spent for each
 2.20 purpose are specified in the following
 2.21 subdivisions.

2.22 Sec. 4. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivision 35, is
 2.23 amended to read:

| | | | |
|------|--|---------|--------------------|
| 2.24 | | | 102,000 |
| 2.25 | Subd. 35. Hunger-Free Campus Grants | 205,000 | <u>303,000</u> |

2.26 For the Office of Higher Education to provide
 2.27 initial and sustaining grants to Minnesota
 2.28 public postsecondary institutions and Tribal
 2.29 colleges under Minnesota Statutes, section
 2.30 ~~136F.245, subdivision 4~~ 135A.137, to meet
 2.31 and maintain the criteria in that same section
 2.32 to address food insecurity on campus. The

- 3.1 base for this appropriation is \$225,000 in fiscal
- 3.2 year 2024 and later.