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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 3079

03/22/2023

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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; creating a green training program at the University

1.3 of Minnesota; establishing a new account in the special revenue fund; requiring a

1.4 report; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes,

1.5 chapter 137.

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

1.7 Section 1. 137.035 GREEN TRAINING PROGRAM.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Account established. (a) A green training program account is established

1.9 in the special revenue fund. Money in the account is appropriated to the Board of Regents

1.10 to administer the green training program in accordance with this section. Appropriations to

1.11 the board for the program are for transfer to the account. Appropriations from the account

1.12 do not cancel and are available until expended.

1.13 (b) If the Board of Regents does not establish the committee as requested in subdivision

1.14 2, all unencumbered balances in the account shall cancel back to the general fund at the end

1.15 of the fiscal year.

1.16 Subd. 2. Committee established. (a) The Board of Regents is requested to establish a

1.17 green training program committee to administer funds in the program account and to appoint

1.18 members to the committee. At least 50 percent of the committee's members must represent

1.19 and be appointed by labor organizations for frontline service workers at the university.

1.20 Frontline service workers include those in the following job categories:

1.21 (1) food service worker and senior food service worker;

1.22 (2) cashier/food aide, junior cashier/food aide, and senior cashier/food aide;

- 2.1 (3) cook;
- 2.2 (4) baker;
- 2.3 (5) attendant and senior attendant;
- 2.4 (6) stores specialist;
- 2.5 (7) delivery service driver;
- 2.6 (8) laborer and senior laborer;
- 2.7 (9) waste treatment attendant;
- 2.8 (10) building and grounds worker and senior building and grounds worker;
- 2.9 (11) athletic grounds worker;
- 2.10 (12) packer helper;
- 2.11 (13) maintenance equipment operator and senior maintenance equipment operator;
- 2.12 (14) heavy equipment operator;
- 2.13 (15) farm equipment operator;
- 2.14 (16) mechanic 1, 2, and 3;
- 2.15 (17) copy center equipment operator and lead copy center operator;
- 2.16 (18) intercollegiate athletic equipment worker;
- 2.17 (19) farm animal attendant;
- 2.18 (20) gardener and senior gardener;
- 2.19 (21) assistant gardener;
- 2.20 (22) laboratory attendant and senior laboratory attendant;
- 2.21 (23) laboratory animal attendant;
- 2.22 (24) utility worker and senior utility worker; and
- 2.23 (25) hazardous material disposal specialist.
- 2.24 (b) Initial appointments to the committee shall be made no later than September 1, 2023.
- 2.25 Committee members shall serve for a term of three years and may be reappointed.
- 2.26 (c) The committee shall annually elect a chair and vice-chair from among its members,
- 2.27 and may elect other officers as necessary.

3.1 (d) The Board of Regents is requested to convene the first meeting of the committee no
3.2 later than October 1, 2023. Thereafter, the committee shall meet upon the call of the chair
3.3 or at the request of a majority of committee members.

3.4 Subd. 3. **Committee duties.** (a) The green training program committee shall oversee
3.5 and administer funds appropriated for the green training program. Program funds may be
3.6 used for the following purposes:

3.7 (1) education and training of university employees in fields determined by the joint
3.8 committee, including but not limited to:

3.9 (i) reduction in solid waste;

3.10 (ii) proper sorting of solid waste; and

3.11 (iii) reduction in energy usage; and

3.12 (2) training incentives for university employees in the form of a per-hour increase in
3.13 pay upon employee completion of training.

3.14 (b) The committee shall monitor industry issues and trends affecting solid waste
3.15 management, energy consumption, and other sustainability measures and make
3.16 recommendations to the Board of Regents regarding university practices in these areas.

3.17 (c) For the purposes of university employee training, the committee may procure direct
3.18 technical and educational assistance by using existing institutions and resources, including
3.19 but not limited to:

3.20 (1) local workforce investment boards;

3.21 (2) state colleges;

3.22 (3) labor organizations;

3.23 (4) administrative entities for service delivery areas under the federal Workforce
3.24 Investment Act or its successor statute; and

3.25 (5) nonprofit organizations and other entities that have expertise in providing technical
3.26 assistance regarding employee training in the fields determined by the committee under
3.27 paragraph (a).

3.28 Subd. 4. **Collective bargaining.** By mutual agreement through collective bargaining
3.29 with frontline service worker unions, the Board of Regents may adopt additional rules and
3.30 procedures for the green training program, the program committee, and the use of green

4.1 training program account funds. These rules and procedures must not conflict with this
4.2 section.

4.3 Subd. 5. **Report required.** Not later than February 28 of each year, beginning in 2024,
4.4 the green training program committee shall report to the chairs and ranking minority members
4.5 of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over higher education policy and finance
4.6 concerning the state of the program account and account funds disbursed, together with any
4.7 recommendations and additional information the committee considers appropriate.

4.8 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION; GREEN TRAINING PROGRAM ACCOUNT.**

4.9 \$3,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 is appropriated from the general fund to the Board of
4.10 Regents of the University of Minnesota for transfer to the green training program account
4.11 in the special revenue fund under Minnesota Statutes, section 137.035, subdivision 1.