A bill for an act

relating to higher education; establishing the power of you program; report to legislature; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 136F.

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

Section 1. **[136F.19] POWER OF YOU PROGRAM.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The power of you program is established at Metropolitan State University, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, and St. Paul College to promote the preparation and enrollment of students in postsecondary education through partnerships with high schools and school districts.

Subd. 2. **Allocations.** (a) Minnesota State Colleges and Universities shall allocate the power of you funds at Metropolitan State University, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, and St. Paul College.

(b) The funds must be used to increase student financial aid to fill the gap between costs and federal and state grants to students who:

(1) graduate from a public Minneapolis or St. Paul high school;

(2) enroll full time immediately after graduation; and

(3) are participants in the power of you.

Sec. 2. **POWER OF YOU PILOT PROGRAMS.**

Subdivision 1. **Power of you pilot programs.** Pilots shall be established in suburban and rural sites to test the expansion of power of you. In addition to the requirements under Minnesota Statutes, section 136F.19, the power of you pilot programs must follow the model set forth by the power of you at Metropolitan State University, Minneapolis

Community and Technical College, and St. Paul College, increasing financial aid to students enrolled in the program.

Subd. 2. **Suburban pilot selection.** By June 1, 2008, Metropolitan State University shall select one technical college and one community college or community-technical college to each partner with a high school in developing a power of you pilot program, to test expansion of the program established under Minnesota Statutes, section 136F.19, to students in Twin Cities' suburban areas. Metropolitan State University shall choose the colleges' high school partners.

Subd. 3. **Rural pilot selection.** By June 1, 2008, the chancellor of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities shall select two rural colleges, one being a multicampus institution in an agricultural part of the state and the other a multicampus institution in a nonagricultural part of the state dependent on natural resources, for power of you pilot programs. Each of the campus sites of the colleges shall work with a high school to test the application of the power of you pilot program established under Minnesota Statutes, section 136F.19, to nonmetropolitan students and colleges. The chancellor shall choose the campus' high school partners.

Sec. 3. **REPORT TO LEGISLATURE.**

The staff of the Office of the Chancellor of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities shall evaluate the performance of the power of you pilot programs established at the locations chosen in section 2 and in Minnesota Statutes, section 136F.19, to determine the effects on participation rates, retention, and potential enhancement of the workforce, and shall evaluate the costs and benefits of the pilot programs. The Office of the Chancellor shall report the results of the evaluation to the committees in the senate and house of representatives with jurisdiction over higher education by January 15, 2010.

Sec. 4. **TRANSFER; POWER OF YOU GRANT.**

The Minnesota Office of Higher Education shall transfer $4,000,000 of the unencumbered balance from the appropriation made under Laws 2007, chapter 144, article 1, section 3, subdivision 2, to Minnesota State Colleges and Universities in fiscal year 2009 for the power of you programs established under Minnesota Statutes, section 136F.19, and for purposes of the power of you pilot programs under section 2. Minnesota State Colleges and Universities shall use the funds as follows:

(1) $2,000,000 is for the power of you at Metropolitan State University, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, and St. Paul College; and

(2) $2,000,000 is for the power of you pilot programs to be established at new sites chosen by Metropolitan State University and by the chancellor of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities under section 2.

Of the amount under clause (2), $800,000 is for pilot programs at suburban schools and $1,200,000 is for pilot programs at rural schools, to be divided proportionately based on eligible enrollment. The power of you institutions shall use operating funds or federal or private money to provide the necessary counseling and support services on campus in local school districts. This appropriation adds to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities base.

Sec. 5. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Sections 1 to 3 are effective the day following final enactment.