A bill for an act

relating to higher education; appropriating money to reduce tuition at the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

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

Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TUITION REDUCTION.**

$50,000,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities for fiscal year 2009 to reduce student tuition. The board must use this appropriation to reduce tuition by at least an equal amount for students enrolled in colleges and universities. The purpose of this appropriation is to decrease the student's share of instructional costs and to increase the state's share of instructional costs under the funding policy in Minnesota Statutes, section 135A.01. It is the goal of the legislature to achieve the one-third student share and two-thirds state share of instructional funding specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 135A.01, over the next four years, beginning with this appropriation. This appropriation is in addition to appropriations to the board of trustees under Laws 2007, chapter 144, article 1, section 4.