

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FIRST SESSION**

S.F. No. 2703

(SENATE AUTHORS: ABELER, Hoffman and Newton)

DATE
03/26/2019

D-PG
1336

OFFICIAL STATUS
Introduction and first reading
Referred to Human Services Reform Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to health; appropriating money to the commissioner of health for a grant
1.3 to Cassia Learning Lab for activities to connect older adults with technology
1.4 devices.

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

1.6 Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; CASSIA LEARNING LAB.**

1.7 \$150,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$150,000 in fiscal year 2021 are appropriated from the
1.8 general fund to the commissioner of health for a grant to the Cassia Learning Lab to support
1.9 activities to connect older adults and their families and caregivers with proven or emerging
1.10 technology devices that may be used to help older adults live actively, independently, and
1.11 safely in their homes and communities of choice for as long as possible. The commissioner
1.12 may use up to \$5,000 each year for administration. The Cassia Learning Lab shall use the
1.13 grant funds to:

1.14 (1) conduct tours of the learning lab and hold public information sessions to raise public
1.15 awareness of technology devices that are available to help older adults remain in their homes
1.16 and communities of choice for as long as possible;

1.17 (2) produce and update educational materials on these technology devices, maintain a
1.18 comprehensive website, and make educational materials available to older adults and their
1.19 families and caregivers at no charge;

1.20 (3) train and pay related costs for volunteers to help older adults evaluate their living
1.21 situations, evaluate technology devices that may help older adults remain in their homes
1.22 and communities of choice, and assist older adults and their families and caregivers if
1.23 appropriate, with learning how to use technology devices;

- 2.1 (4) purchase and test promising technology devices, pilot their use by older adults, and
- 2.2 evaluate the results; and
- 2.3 (5) fund administrative costs of the learning lab.