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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 1791

03/01/2021 Authored by Gomez, Keeler, Howard, Reyer, Koegel and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Human Services Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to local government aid; establishing local homeless prevention aid;
1.3 appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter
1.4 477A.

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

1.6 Section 1. 477A.30 LOCAL HOMELESS PREVENTION AID.

1.7 Subdivision 1. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have the
1.8 meanings given.

1.9 (1) "City" means a statutory or home rule charter city; and

1.10 (2) "Families" means families and persons 24 years of age or younger.

1.11 Subd. 2. Purpose. The purpose of this section is to help local governments ensure no
1.12 child is homeless within a local jurisdiction by keeping families from losing housing and
1.13 helping those experiencing homelessness find housing.

1.14 Subd. 3. Distribution. The money appropriated to local homeless prevention aid under
1.15 this section must be allocated to counties based on each county's percentage share of students
1.16 experiencing homelessness, based on the most recent information from the Minnesota
1.17 Department of Education.

1.18 Subd. 4. Use of proceeds. Counties that receive a distribution under this section must
1.19 use the proceeds to fund family homeless prevention and assistance projects. Projects may
1.20 be administered by a county, a group of contiguous counties jointly acting together, a city,
1.21 a group of contiguous cities jointly acting together, a tribe, a group of tribes, or a
1.22 community-based nonprofit organization. Each project must include plans for:

2.1 (1) targeting families with children who are eligible for a prekindergarten through grade
2.2 12 academic program and are:

2.3 (i) living in overcrowded conditions in their current housing;

2.4 (ii) paying more than 50 percent of their income for rent; or

2.5 (iii) lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence;

2.6 (2) targeting unaccompanied youth in need of an alternative residential setting;

2.7 (3) connecting families with the social services necessary to maintain the families'
2.8 stability in their homes, including but not limited to housing navigation, legal representation,
2.9 and family outreach; and

2.10 (4) one or more of the following:

2.11 (i) providing rental assistance for a specified period of time, which may exceed 24
2.12 months; or

2.13 (ii) providing support and case management services to improve housing stability,
2.14 including but not limited to housing navigation and family outreach.

2.15 Subd. 5. **Payments.** The commissioner of revenue must compute the amount of local
2.16 homeless prevention aid payable to each county under this section. On or before August 1
2.17 of each year, the commissioner shall certify the amount to be paid to each county in the
2.18 following year. The commissioner shall pay local homeless prevention aid annually at the
2.19 times provided in section 477A.015.

2.20 Subd. 6. **Appropriation.** \$55,000,000 is annually appropriated from the general fund
2.21 to the commissioner of revenue to make payments required under this section.

2.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning with aids payable in 2022 and
2.23 thereafter.