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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1265

02/20/2025

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety Finance and Policy

- 1.1

A bill for an act
- 1.2

relating to corrections; revising American Indian cultural programming services;
- 1.3

amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 241.80.
- 1.4

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 241.80, is amended to read:
- 1.6

241.80 AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURAL PROGRAM.
- 1.7

Subdivision 1. **Authority.** The commissioner of corrections shall develop a policy to
- 1.8

provide the cultural programming services listed in subdivision 2 to American Indian inmates
- 1.9

incarcerated individuals of all juvenile and adult state correctional facilities and
- 1.10

community-based correctional programs. The commissioner may, within the limits of
- 1.11

available money, contract with appropriate American Indian private, nonprofit organizations
- 1.12

to provide the cultural programming services.
- 1.13

Subd. 2. **Cultural programming services.** The policy shall include, but need not be
- 1.14

limited to, providing, within the limits of available money, spiritual and cultural programming
- 1.15

services having the following purposes:
- 1.16

(1) ~~the teaching of good work habits and the development of motivation through work~~
- 1.17

education and training needed for postincarceration self-sufficiency;
- 1.18

(2) the development of ~~cultural pride to improve~~ strengthened American Indian self-image
- 1.19

identity;
- 1.20

(3) ~~the development of an understanding of and an adjustment to the cultural differences~~
- 1.21

~~between American Indians and other ethnic groups;~~

2.1 (3) improved understanding of American Indian culture, traditions, and spiritual practices
2.2 for Department of Corrections staff;

2.3 ~~(4) the development of attitudes of mutual trust, respect, and understanding among~~
2.4 ~~American Indian family members~~ partnerships with Tribal Nations to address the unique
2.5 needs of American Indian incarcerated persons and promote approaches to rehabilitation
2.6 specific to this population;

2.7 ~~(5) the fostering of increased availability of medicine men and American Indian spiritual~~
2.8 ~~leaders to teach American Indian inmates~~ incarcerated individuals about American Indian
2.9 ~~history, cultural sensitivity, and religion~~ and spiritual practices;

2.10 (6) the involvement of American Indian ~~inmates~~ incarcerated individuals in those aspects
2.11 of the correctional system that will aid in their rehabilitation; and

2.12 (7) the provision of services to American Indian ~~inmates~~ incarcerated individuals that
2.13 will facilitate their reentry into the community.