

1.1 ..... moves to amend H.F. No. 4407 as follows:

1.2 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.3 "Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 260.63, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

1.4 Subd. 10. **Disproportionately represented child.** "Disproportionately represented child"  
1.5 means a person who is under the age of 18 and who is a member of a community whose  
1.6 race, ~~culture~~, ethnicity, disability status, or low-income socioeconomic status is  
1.7 disproportionately encountered, engaged, or identified in the child welfare system as  
1.8 compared to the representation in the state's total child population, as determined ~~on an~~  
1.9 ~~annual basis~~ by the commissioner under section 260.631. A child's race, ~~culture~~, or ethnicity  
1.10 is may also be determined based upon by a child's self-identification or identification of a  
1.11 child's race, culture, or ethnicity as reported by the child's parent or guardian.

1.12 Sec. 2. [260.631] DETERMINATIONS.

1.13 Subdivision 1. Determination of disproportionate representation. (a) The  
1.14 commissioner must determine the communities that are disproportionately represented in  
1.15 Minnesota's child protection system pursuant to this section for the purposes of the Minnesota  
1.16 African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act. In making  
1.17 this determination, the commissioner must consider the recommendations provided under  
1.18 paragraph (d). The commissioner's determination under this paragraph is in effect until the  
1.19 effective date of the next determination issued by the commissioner.

1.20 (b) The commissioner must make the initial determination under paragraph (a) by  
1.21 September 1, 2026, and then every even-numbered year thereafter.

1.22 (c) A responsible social services agency must use the commissioner's determination  
1.23 under paragraph (a) to determine whether a child meets the definition of a disproportionately  
1.24 represented child under section 260.63, subdivision 10.

2.1 (d) The African American Child and Family Well-Being Advisory Council must submit  
2.2 recommendations to the commissioner on the disproportionate representation of African  
2.3 American children in Minnesota's child protection system, using state and federal census  
2.4 data. The council must provide its initial recommendations to the commissioner by August  
2.5 1, 2026, and then provide recommendations every even-numbered year thereafter.

2.6 (e) If the commissioner makes a determination under paragraph (a) that differs from the  
2.7 recommendations provided by the African American Child and Family Well-Being Advisory  
2.8 Council under paragraph (d) regarding the disproportionate representation of African  
2.9 American children in Minnesota's child protection system, the commissioner must provide  
2.10 the reasons for diverging from the council's recommendations and identify the data the  
2.11 commissioner relied upon in making the determination of disproportionate representation.  
2.12 The commissioner must provide the information required under this paragraph to:

2.13 (1) the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with  
2.14 jurisdiction over the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare  
2.15 Disproportionality Act;

2.16 (2) the African American Child and Family Well-Being Advisory Council;

2.17 (3) the Children's Justice Initiative; and

2.18 (4) responsible social services agencies statewide.

2.19 (f) By September 15, 2026, and every even-numbered year thereafter, the commissioner  
2.20 must notify responsible social services agencies, the council, and the Children's Justice  
2.21 Initiative of the commissioner's determination under paragraph (a). The notification must  
2.22 include, but is not limited to:

2.23 (1) a list of the communities the commissioner determined are disproportionately  
2.24 represented in Minnesota's child protection system, and whether there are any changes from  
2.25 the previous notification;

2.26 (2) how a responsible social services agency must implement the commissioner's  
2.27 determination;

2.28 (3) the effective date of the commissioner's determination; and

2.29 (4) the method or methods the commissioner used, or the data the commissioner relied  
2.30 upon, to make the determination.

2.31 Subd. 2. **Definition of disability; low-income socioeconomic status.** (a) The  
2.32 commissioner must define what constitutes disability and low-income socioeconomic status

3.1 for purposes of the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare  
3.2 Disproportionality Act. The commissioner's definitions under this paragraph are in effect  
3.3 until the effective date of the next definitions issued by the commissioner.

3.4 (b) The commissioner must develop the initial definitions under paragraph (a) by  
3.5 September 1, 2026, and then every even-numbered year thereafter.

3.6 (c) A responsible social services agency must use the commissioner's definitions under  
3.7 paragraph (a) to determine whether a child meets the definition of a disproportionately  
3.8 represented child under section 260.63, subdivision 10.

3.9 (d) By September 15, 2026, and every even-numbered year thereafter, the commissioner  
3.10 must notify responsible social services agencies, the council, and the Children's Justice  
3.11 Initiative of the definitions developed by the commissioner under paragraph (a). The  
3.12 notification must include, but is not limited to:

3.13 (1) the definitions of disability and low-income socioeconomic status, and whether there  
3.14 are any changes from the previous definitions;

3.15 (2) how a responsible social services agency must implement the commissioner's  
3.16 definitions;

3.17 (3) the effective date of the commissioner's definitions; and

3.18 (4) the method or methods the commissioner used, or the data the commissioner relied  
3.19 upon, to develop the definitions.

3.20 Subd. 3. **Determination of child's status.** The responsible social services agency must  
3.21 document the efforts the agency takes when determining whether a child meets or does not  
3.22 meet the definition of disproportionately represented child under section 260.63, subdivision  
3.23 10, and must provide that information to the commissioner upon request.

3.24 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 260.64, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

3.25 Subd. 2. **Safety plan.** (a) Prior to petitioning the court to remove an African American  
3.26 or a disproportionately represented child from the child's home under section 260.66, a  
3.27 responsible social services agency must work with the child's family to allow the child to  
3.28 remain in the child's home while implementing a safety plan based on the family's needs.  
3.29 The responsible social services agency must:

3.30 (1) make active efforts to engage the child's parent or custodian and the child, when  
3.31 appropriate;

4.1 (2) assess the family's cultural and economic needs and, if applicable, needs and services  
4.2 related to the child's disability;

4.3 (3) hold a family group consultation meeting and connect the family with supports to  
4.4 establish a safety network for the family; and

4.5 (4) provide support, guidance, and input to assist the family and the family's safety  
4.6 network with developing the safety plan.

4.7 (b) The safety plan must:

4.8 (1) address the specific allegations impacting the child's safety in the home. If neglect,  
4.9 as defined in section 260E.03, subdivision 15, is alleged, the safety plan must incorporate  
4.10 economic services and supports for the child and the child's family, if eligible, to address  
4.11 the family's specific needs and prevent neglect;

4.12 (2) incorporate family and community support to ensure the child's safety while keeping  
4.13 the family intact; and

4.14 (3) be adjusted as needed to address the child's and family's ongoing needs and support.

4.15 (c) The responsible social services agency is not required to establish a safety plan:

4.16 (1) in a case with allegations of sexual abuse or egregious harm;

4.17 (2) when the parent is not willing to follow a safety plan;

4.18 (3) when the parent has abandoned the child or is unavailable to follow a safety plan;

4.19 or

4.20 (4) when the parent has chronic substance use disorder issues and is unable to parent  
4.21 the child.

4.22 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 260.67, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

4.23 Subd. 2. **Termination of parental rights restrictions.** (a) A court shall not terminate  
4.24 the parental rights of a parent of an African American or a disproportionately represented  
4.25 child based solely on the parent's failure to complete case plan requirements.

4.26 (b) Except as provided in ~~paragraph (c)~~ subdivision 3, a court shall not terminate the  
4.27 parental rights of a parent of an African American or a disproportionately represented child  
4.28 in a child placement proceeding unless the allegations against the parent involve sexual  
4.29 abuse; egregious harm as defined in section 260C.007, subdivision 14; murder in the first,  
4.30 second, or third degree under section 609.185, 609.19, or 609.195; murder of an unborn  
4.31 child in the first, second, or third degree under section 609.2661, 609.2662, or 609.2663;

5.1 manslaughter of an unborn child in the first or second degree under section 609.2664 or  
5.2 609.2665; domestic assault by strangulation under section 609.2247; felony domestic assault  
5.3 under section 609.2242 or 609.2243; kidnapping under section 609.25; solicitation,  
5.4 inducement, and promotion of prostitution under section 609.322, subdivision 1, and  
5.5 subdivision 1a if one or more aggravating factors are present; criminal sexual conduct under  
5.6 sections 609.342 to 609.3451; engaging in, hiring, or agreeing to hire a minor to engage in  
5.7 prostitution under section 609.324, subdivision 1; solicitation of children to engage in sexual  
5.8 conduct under section 609.352; possession of pornographic work involving minors under  
5.9 section 617.247; malicious punishment or neglect or endangerment of a child under section  
5.10 609.377 or 609.378; use of a minor in sexual performance under section 617.246; or failing  
5.11 to protect a child from an overt act or condition that constitutes egregious harm.

5.12 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 260.68, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

5.13 Subd. 2. **Case review.** (a) ~~Each responsible social services agency~~ The commissioner  
5.14 shall conduct a review of all child welfare ten percent of each responsible social services  
5.15 agency's child protection cases for African American and other disproportionately represented  
5.16 children handled by the agency. Each responsible social services agency shall create a  
5.17 summary report of trends identified under paragraphs (b) and (c), a remediation plan as  
5.18 provided in paragraph (d), and an update on implementation of any previous remediation  
5.19 plans. The first report shall be provided to the African American Child Well-Being Advisory  
5.20 Council, the commissioner, and the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative  
5.21 committees with jurisdiction over child welfare by October 1, 2029, and annually thereafter.  
5.22 For purposes of determining outcomes in this subdivision, responsible social services  
5.23 agencies shall use guidance from the commissioner. The commissioner shall provide guidance  
5.24 starting on November 1, 2028, and annually thereafter. responsible social services agencies.  
5.25 Responsible social services agencies must provide the commissioner with any information  
5.26 requested for the purposes of this subdivision in a form and within a time frame prescribed  
5.27 by the commissioner.

5.28 (b) The case review must include:

5.29 (1) the number of African American and disproportionately represented children  
5.30 represented in the county child ~~welfare~~ protection system;

5.31 (2) the number and sources of maltreatment reports received and reports screened in for  
5.32 investigation or referred for family assessment and the race of the children and parents or  
5.33 custodians involved in each report;

6.1 (3) the number and race of children and parents or custodians who receive in-home  
6.2 preventive case management services;

6.3 (4) the number and race of children whose parents or custodians are referred to  
6.4 community-based, culturally appropriate, strength-based, or trauma-informed services;

6.5 (5) the number and race of children removed from their homes;

6.6 (6) the number and race of children reunified with their parents or custodians;

6.7 (7) the number and race of children whose parents or custodians are offered family group  
6.8 decision-making services;

6.9 (8) the number and race of children whose parents or custodians are offered the parent  
6.10 support outreach program;

6.11 (9) the number and race of children in foster care or out-of-home placement at the time  
6.12 that the data is gathered;

6.13 (10) the number and race of children who achieve permanency through a transfer of  
6.14 permanent legal and physical custody to a relative or an adoption; and

6.15 (11) the number and race of children who are under the guardianship of the commissioner  
6.16 or awaiting a permanency disposition.

6.17 (c) The required case review must also:

6.18 (1) identify barriers to reunifying children with their families;

6.19 (2) identify the family conditions that led to the out-of-home placement;

6.20 (3) identify any barriers to accessing culturally informed mental health or substance use  
6.21 disorder treatment services for the parents or children;

6.22 (4) document efforts to identify fathers and maternal and paternal relatives and to provide  
6.23 services to custodial and noncustodial fathers, if appropriate; and

6.24 (5) document and summarize court reviews of active efforts.

6.25 (d) For any responsible social services agency that has the commissioner identifies in a  
6.26 case review as showing disproportionality and disparities in child welfare outcomes for  
6.27 African American and other disproportionately represented children and the children's  
6.28 families; compared to the agency's overall outcomes, the commissioner must include in  
6.29 their case review summary report develop a remediation plan with the agency with  
6.30 measurable outcomes to identify, address, and reduce the factors that led to the  
6.31 disproportionality and disparities in the agency's child welfare outcomes. The remediation

7.1 plan shall also include information about how the responsible social services agency will  
7.2 achieve and document trauma-informed, positive child well-being outcomes through  
7.3 remediation efforts.

7.4 (e) The commissioner shall create a summary report of trends identified under paragraphs  
7.5 (b) and (c), a summary of remediation plans developed as provided in paragraph (d), and  
7.6 an update on implementation of any previous remediation plans. The commissioner shall  
7.7 provide the first report to the African American Child Well-Being Advisory Council, the  
7.8 responsible social services agencies, and the chairs and ranking minority members of the  
7.9 legislative committees with jurisdiction over children, youth, and families by October 1,  
7.10 2029, and annually thereafter.

7.11 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 260.69, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

7.12 Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** (a) The commissioner of children, youth, and families  
7.13 must collaborate with the Children's Justice Initiative to ensure that cultural competency  
7.14 training is given or made available to individuals working in the child welfare system,  
7.15 including child welfare workers and supervisors. Training ~~must~~ developed by the Child  
7.16 Welfare Training Academy may also be made available to attorneys, juvenile court judges,  
7.17 guardians ad litem, and family law judges. The commissioner must give priority to child  
7.18 welfare workers and supervisors for in-person trainings or other trainings with limited  
7.19 attendance or availability.

7.20 (b) This subdivision does not require the commissioner or the Child Welfare Training  
7.21 Academy to develop or provide training specifically for attorneys, juvenile court judges,  
7.22 guardians ad litem, family law judges, or any other individuals beyond the primary training  
7.23 audiences required to be served under Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 9, article  
7.24 1, section 37, subdivision 2, paragraph (e).

7.25 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 260.691, subdivision 1, is amended  
7.26 to read:

7.27 Subdivision 1. **Establishment and duties.** (a) The African American Child and Family  
7.28 Well-Being Advisory Council is established for the Department of Children, Youth, and  
7.29 Families.

7.30 (b) The council shall consist of 31 members appointed by the commissioner and must  
7.31 include representatives with lived personal or professional experience within African  
7.32 American communities. Members may include but are not limited to youth who have exited  
7.33 the child welfare system; parents; legal custodians; relative and kinship caregivers or foster

8.1 care providers; community service providers, advocates, and members; county and private  
8.2 social services agency case managers; representatives from faith-based institutions; academic  
8.3 professionals; a representative from the Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage; the  
8.4 Ombudsperson for African American Families; and other individuals with experience and  
8.5 knowledge of African American communities. Council members must be selected through  
8.6 an open appointments process under section 15.0597. The terms, compensation, and removal  
8.7 of council members are governed by section 15.059.

8.8 (c) The council must:

8.9 (1) review annual reports related to African American children involved in the child  
8.10 welfare system. These reports may include but are not limited to the maltreatment,  
8.11 out-of-home placement, and permanency of African American children;

8.12 (2) assist with and make recommendations to the commissioner for developing strategies  
8.13 to reduce maltreatment determinations, prevent unnecessary out-of-home placement, promote  
8.14 culturally appropriate foster care and shelter or facility placement decisions and settings for  
8.15 African American children in need of out-of-home placement, ensure timely achievement  
8.16 of permanency, and improve child welfare outcomes for African American children and  
8.17 their families;

8.18 (3) review summary reports on targeted case reviews prepared by the commissioner to  
8.19 ensure that responsible social services agencies meet the needs of African American children  
8.20 and their families. Based on data collected from those reviews, the council shall assist the  
8.21 commissioner with developing strategies needed to improve any identified child welfare  
8.22 outcomes, including but not limited to maltreatment, out-of-home placement, and permanency  
8.23 for African American children;

8.24 (4) make recommendations to the commissioner and the legislature for public policy  
8.25 and statutory changes that specifically consider the needs of African American children and  
8.26 their families involved in the child welfare system;

8.27 (5) advise the commissioner on stakeholder engagement strategies and actions that the  
8.28 commissioner and responsible social services agencies may take to improve child welfare  
8.29 outcomes for African American children and their families;

8.30 (6) assist the commissioner with developing strategies for public messaging and  
8.31 communication related to racial ~~disproportionality~~ and disparities in child welfare outcomes  
8.32 for African American children and their families;

9.1 (7) assist the commissioner with identifying and developing internal and external  
9.2 partnerships to support adequate access to services and resources for African American  
9.3 children and their families, including but not limited to housing assistance, employment  
9.4 assistance, food and nutrition support, health care, child care assistance, and educational  
9.5 support and training; and

9.6 (8) assist the commissioner with developing strategies to promote the development of  
9.7 a culturally diverse and representative child welfare workforce in Minnesota that includes  
9.8 professionals who are reflective of the community served and who have been directly  
9.9 impacted by lived experiences within the child welfare system. The council must also assist  
9.10 the commissioner with exploring strategies and partnerships to address education and training  
9.11 needs, hiring, recruitment, retention, and professional advancement practices.

9.12 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 260.692, subdivision 1, is amended  
9.13 to read:

9.14 Subdivision 1. **Duties.** The African American Child and Family Well-Being Unit,  
9.15 currently established by the commissioner, must:

9.16 (1) assist with the development of African American cultural competency training and  
9.17 review child welfare curriculum in the Minnesota Child Welfare Training Academy to  
9.18 ensure that responsible social services agency staff and other child welfare professionals  
9.19 are appropriately prepared to engage with African American children and their families and  
9.20 to support family preservation and reunification;

9.21 (2) provide technical assistance, including on-site technical assistance, and case  
9.22 consultation to responsible social services agencies to assist agencies with implementing  
9.23 and complying with the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare  
9.24 Disproportionality Act;

9.25 (3) monitor individual county and statewide disaggregated and nondisaggregated data  
9.26 to identify trends and patterns in child welfare outcomes, including but not limited to  
9.27 reporting, maltreatment, out-of-home placement, and permanency of African American  
9.28 children and develop strategies to address ~~disproportionality~~ and disparities in the child  
9.29 welfare system;

9.30 (4) develop and implement a system for conducting case reviews when the commissioner  
9.31 receives reports of noncompliance with the Minnesota African American Family Preservation  
9.32 and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act or when requested by the parent or custodian of  
9.33 an African American child. Case reviews may include but are not limited to a review of

10.1 placement prevention efforts, safety planning, case planning and service provision by the  
10.2 responsible social services agency, relative placement consideration, and permanency  
10.3 planning;

10.4 (5) establish and administer a request for proposals process for African American and  
10.5 disproportionately represented family preservation grants under section 260.693, monitor  
10.6 grant activities, and provide technical assistance to grantees;

10.7 (6) in coordination with the African American Child and Family Well-Being Advisory  
10.8 Council, coordinate services and create internal and external partnerships to support adequate  
10.9 access to services and resources for African American children and their families, including  
10.10 but not limited to housing assistance, employment assistance, food and nutrition support,  
10.11 health care, child care assistance, and educational support and training; and

10.12 (7) develop public messaging and communication to inform the public about racial  
10.13 disparities in child welfare outcomes, current efforts and strategies to reduce racial disparities,  
10.14 and resources available to African American children and their families involved in the  
10.15 child welfare system.

10.16 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 260.692, subdivision 2, is amended  
10.17 to read:

10.18 Subd. 2. **Case reviews.** (a) The African American Child and Family Well-Being Unit  
10.19 must conduct systemic case reviews to monitor targeted child welfare outcomes, including  
10.20 but not limited to maltreatment, out-of-home placement, and permanency of African  
10.21 American children.

10.22 (b) The reviews under this subdivision must be conducted using a random sampling of  
10.23 representative child ~~welfare~~ welfare protection cases stratified for certain case related factors,  
10.24 including but not limited to case type, maltreatment type, if the case involves out-of-home  
10.25 placement, and other demographic variables. In conducting the reviews, unit staff may use  
10.26 court records and documents, information from the social services information system, and  
10.27 other available case file information to complete the case reviews.

10.28 (c) The frequency of the reviews and the number of cases, child welfare outcomes, and  
10.29 selected counties reviewed shall be determined by the unit in consultation with the African  
10.30 American Child and Family Well-Being Advisory Council, with consideration given to the  
10.31 availability of unit resources needed to conduct the reviews.

10.32 (d) The unit must monitor all case reviews and use the collective case review information  
10.33 and data to generate summary case review reports, ensure compliance with the Minnesota

11.1 African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act, and  
11.2 identify trends or patterns in child welfare outcomes for African American children.

11.3 (e) The unit must review information from members of the public received through the  
11.4 compliance and feedback portal, including policy and practice concerns related to individual  
11.5 child ~~welfare~~ protection cases. After assessing a case concern, the unit may determine if  
11.6 further necessary action should be taken, which may include coordinating case remediation  
11.7 with other relevant child welfare agencies in accordance with data privacy laws, including  
11.8 the African American Child and Family Well-Being Advisory Council, and offering case  
11.9 consultation and technical assistance to the responsible local social services agency as  
11.10 needed or requested by the agency.

11.11 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 260.692, subdivision 3, is amended  
11.12 to read:

11.13 Subd. 3. **Reports.** (a) The African American Child and Family Well-Being Unit must  
11.14 provide regular updates on unit activities, including summary reports of case reviews, to  
11.15 the African American Child and Family Well-Being Advisory Council, and must publish  
11.16 an annual census of African American children in out-of-home placements statewide. The  
11.17 annual census must include data on the types of placements, age and sex of the children,  
11.18 how long the children have been in out-of-home placements, and other relevant demographic  
11.19 information.

11.20 (b) The African American Child and Family Well-Being Unit shall gather summary data  
11.21 about the practice and policy inquiries and individual case concerns received through the  
11.22 compliance and feedback portal under subdivision 2, paragraph (e). The unit shall provide  
11.23 regular reports of the nonidentifying compliance and feedback portal summary data to the  
11.24 African American Child and Family Well-Being Advisory Council to identify child welfare  
11.25 trends and patterns to assist with developing policy and practice recommendations to support  
11.26 eliminating ~~disparity and disproportionality~~ disparities for African American children.

11.27 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 260.693, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

11.28 Subd. 2. **Eligible services.** (a) Services eligible for grants under this section include but  
11.29 are not limited to:

11.30 (1) child out-of-home placement prevention and reunification services;

11.31 (2) family-based services and reunification therapy;

11.32 (3) culturally specific individual and family counseling;

- 12.1 (4) court advocacy;
- 12.2 (5) training for and consultation to responsible social services agencies and private social  
12.3 services agencies regarding this act;
- 12.4 (6) development and promotion of culturally informed, affirming, and responsive  
12.5 community-based prevention and family preservation services that target the children, youth,  
12.6 families, and communities of African American and African heritage experiencing the  
12.7 highest disparities, ~~disproportionality~~, and overrepresentation in the Minnesota child welfare  
12.8 system;
- 12.9 (7) culturally affirming and responsive services that work with children and families in  
12.10 their communities to address their needs and ensure child and family safety and well-being  
12.11 within a culturally appropriate lens and framework;
- 12.12 (8) services to support informal kinship care arrangements; and
- 12.13 (9) other activities and services approved by the commissioner that further the goals of  
12.14 the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality  
12.15 Act, including but not limited to the recruitment of African American staff and staff from  
12.16 other communities disproportionately represented in the child welfare system to work for  
12.17 responsible social services agencies and licensed child-placing agencies.

12.18 (b) The commissioner may specify the priority of an activity and service based on its  
12.19 success in furthering these goals. The commissioner shall give preference to programs and  
12.20 service providers that are located in or serve counties with the highest rates of child welfare  
12.21 ~~disproportionality~~ disproportionate representation for African American and other  
12.22 disproportionately represented children and their families and employ staff who represent  
12.23 the population primarily served.

12.24 Sec. 12. Laws 2024, chapter 117, section 21, is amended to read:

12.25 **Sec. 21. MINNESOTA AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY PRESERVATION AND**  
12.26 **CHILD WELFARE DISPROPORTIONALITY ACT; WORKING GROUP.**

12.27 (a) The commissioner of human services must establish a working group to provide  
12.28 guidance and oversight for the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child  
12.29 Welfare Disproportionality Act phase-in program.

12.30 (b) The members of the working group must include representatives from the Minnesota  
12.31 Association of County Social Service Administrators, the Association of Minnesota Counties,  
12.32 the Minnesota Inter-County Association, the Minnesota County Attorneys Association,

13.1 Hennepin County, Ramsey County, the Department of Human Services, and community  
13.2 organizations with experience in child welfare. The legislature may provide recommendations  
13.3 to the commissioner on the selection of the representatives from the community organizations.

13.4 (c) The working group must provide oversight of the phase-in program and evaluate the  
13.5 cost of the phase-in program. The working group must also assess future costs of  
13.6 implementing the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare  
13.7 Disproportionality Act statewide.

13.8 (d) By January 1, 2026, the working group must develop and submit an interim report  
13.9 to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction  
13.10 over child welfare detailing initial needs for the implementation of the Minnesota African  
13.11 American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act. The interim report  
13.12 must also include recommendations for any statutory or policy changes necessary to  
13.13 implement the act.

13.14 (e) By September 1, 2026, the working group must develop an implementation plan and  
13.15 best practices for the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare  
13.16 Disproportionality Act to go into effect statewide.

13.17 (f) The working group under this section expires December 31, 2027.

13.18 Sec. 13. Laws 2024, chapter 117, section 22, is amended to read:

13.19 **Sec. 22. APPROPRIATIONS; MINNESOTA AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY**  
13.20 **PRESERVATION AND CHILD WELFARE DISPROPORTIONALITY ACT.**

13.21 (a) \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 is appropriated from the general fund to the  
13.22 commissioner of human services for grants to Hennepin and Ramsey Counties to implement  
13.23 the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality  
13.24 Act phase-in program. Of this amount, \$2,500,000 must be provided to Hennepin County  
13.25 and \$2,500,000 must be provided to Ramsey County. This is a onetime appropriation and  
13.26 is available until ~~June 30~~ December 31, 2026.

13.27 (b) \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 is appropriated from the general fund to the  
13.28 commissioner of human services for the African American and disproportionately represented  
13.29 family preservation grant program under Minnesota Statutes, section 260.693.  
13.30 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16B.98, subdivision 14, the amount for  
13.31 administrative costs under this paragraph is \$0.

14.1 (c) \$2,367,000 in fiscal year 2025 is appropriated from the general fund to the  
14.2 commissioner of human services to implement the African American Family Preservation  
14.3 and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act. The base for this appropriation is \$3,251,000 in  
14.4 fiscal year 2026 and \$3,110,000 in fiscal year 2027.

14.5 Sec. 14. **APPROPRIATION; COUNTY IMPLEMENTATION OF MINNESOTA**  
14.6 **AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY PRESERVATION AND CHILD WELFARE**  
14.7 **DISPROPORTIONALITY ACT.**

14.8 \$..... in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of  
14.9 children, youth, and families to distribute to responsible social services agencies for support  
14.10 for staffing and service provision related to the implementation of the Minnesota African  
14.11 American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act.

14.12 Sec. 15. **REPEALER.**

14.13 Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 260.63, subdivision 9, is repealed."

14.14 Amend the title accordingly