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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3586

02/23/2026 Authored by Gander and Johnson, W., The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Children and Families Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to food support; establishing a regional food bank grant program;
1.3 appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter
1.4 142F.

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

1.6 Section 1. 142F.16 REGIONAL FOOD BANK GRANTS.

1.7 Subdivision 1. Establishment. The commissioner of children, youth, and families must
1.8 establish regional food bank grants to increase the availability of food to individuals and
1.9 families in need.

1.10 Subd. 2. Distribution of appropriation. The commissioner must distribute money
1.11 appropriated for grants under this section to regional food banks and Minnesota Tribal
1.12 governments, as defined in section 10.65, using a formula based on the number of persons
1.13 in households having incomes below the federal poverty level and the number of unemployed
1.14 persons in the service area of the food bank or Minnesota Tribal government.

1.15 Subd. 3. Allowable use of money. (a) Grant money distributed under this section must
1.16 be used to purchase, transport, and coordinate the distribution of food to sites approved by
1.17 the commissioner. Grant money distributed under this section may also be used to purchase
1.18 personal hygiene products, including but not limited to diapers and toilet paper.

1.19 (b) Food and other allowable products purchased with grant money under this section
1.20 must be available at no cost at sites approved by the commissioner.

2.1 (c) Grant money distributed under this section must not be used for the compensation  
2.2 of officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees as  
2.3 reported on Internal Revenue Service Form 990.

2.4 Subd. 4. **Reporting.** (a) Food banks and Minnesota Tribal governments receiving grant  
2.5 money under this section must retain records documenting expenditures of the grant money  
2.6 and comply with any additional documentation requirements imposed by the commissioner.

2.7 (b) Food and other allowable products purchased with grant money under this section  
2.8 must be available at no cost to sites approved by the commissioner.

2.9 (c) Food banks and Minnesota Tribal governments must report on the use of grant money  
2.10 received under this section to the commissioner. The commissioner must determine the  
2.11 timing and form required for the reports.

2.12 Subd. 5. **Ineligible expenditures.** If the commissioner determines that ineligible  
2.13 expenditures were made by a food bank or Minnesota Tribal government under this section,  
2.14 the ineligible amount must be repaid by the food bank or Tribal government to the  
2.15 commissioner and deposited in the general fund.

2.16 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION; REGIONAL FOOD BANK GRANTS.**

2.17 \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner  
2.18 of children, youth, and families for regional food bank grants under Minnesota Statutes,  
2.19 section 142F.16. The base for this appropriation is \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2028 and  
2.20 \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2029.