

Subject Family assets for independence in Minnesota (FAIM)

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Overview

This bill modifies the FAIM program by expanding permissible uses of FAIM savings accounts, expanding the list of entities that may be a fiduciary organization under the program, increases the maximum amount of matching funds, and appropriates money for FAIM.

The FAIM program provides incentives for low-income families to accrue assets for education, housing, vehicles, and economic development purposes. The program also provides financial coaching.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Establishment. Amends § 256E.35, subd. 1. Allows family assets for independence (FAIM) to be accrued for emergencies.
2	Definitions. Amends § 256E.35, subd. 2. Modifies the definition of “fiduciary organization” under FAIM to include a federally recognized Tribal nation or a nonprofit organization and modifies the definition of “permissible use” to include contributions to a Minnesota 529 savings plan.
3	Financial coaching. Amends § 256E.35, subd. 4a. Makes conforming changes.
4	Withdrawal; matching; permissible uses. Amends § 256E.35, subd. 6. Increases the maximum FAIM match from \$6,000 to \$9,000 and makes conforming changes.

Section	Description
5	Program reporting. Amends § 256E.35, subd. 7. Makes conforming changes to FAIM reporting requirements related to the additional permissible uses of FAIM savings.
6	Account exception. Amends § 256P.02, by adding subd. 4. Excludes FAIM accounts when determining the equity value of personal property under the chapter of statutes governing economic assistance program eligibility and verification.
7	Appropriation; family assets for independence. Appropriates \$5,000,000 in each fiscal year of the 2024-25 biennium from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the FAIM program.



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