

**Subject** Establishing the Minnesota baby steps home visiting program

**Authors** Morrison

**Analyst** Annie Mach

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## Overview

This bill establishes the Minnesota baby steps home visiting program for families expecting or caring for an infant, including families adopting an infant. The bill directs the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to administer the program and ensure that the program is available to all families statewide by June 30, 2025. The bill appropriates \$110,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 for the program and provides that the base for the program is \$110,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2024 and 2025. The bill does not provide funding to the program beyond fiscal year 2025.

## Summary

Section	Description
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1	<b>Minnesota baby steps program.</b>
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Creates § 145.871.

**Subd. 1. Grant program.** Paragraph (a) directs the MDH commissioner to award grants to community health boards, nonprofit organizations, Tribal nations, and health care providers to establish voluntary home visiting services for families expecting or caring for an infant, including families adopting an infant.

Paragraph (b) provides that the home visiting services must: (1) provide a range of one to six visits that occur prenatally or within the first four months of the infant's life; and (2) improve outcomes in two or more of the specified areas.

Paragraph (c) requires that the home visiting services are available to all families statewide by June 30, 2025. Prior to the services being available statewide, the MDH commissioner must prioritize applicants serving high-risk or high-need populations.

**Subd. 2. Home visiting services.** Paragraph (a) lists the minimum requirements for the home visiting services established under the section.

**Section** **Description**

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Paragraph (b) provides that the home visiting services may be offered through telephone or video communication when the MDH commissioner determines such methods are necessary to protect the health and safety of the individuals receiving the visits and the home visiting workforce.

**Subd. 3. Administrative costs.** Allows the MDH commissioner to use up to seven percent of the annual appropriation for administration, training and technical assistance, and to conduct ongoing evaluations of the program. Provides that the MDH commissioner may contract for training, capacity building, technical assistance, and evaluation support.

**2 Appropriation.**

Appropriates \$110,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 to the MDH commissioner for the Minnesota baby steps program. Makes the base for the program \$110,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2024 and 2025 only.

**3 Revisor instruction.**

Directs the revisor's office to renumber the home visiting programs in statute so that they are numbered sequentially.



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