House Research

— Bill Summary =

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Subject: Student Health Initiative to Limit Opioid Harm

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Overview

This bill directs the commissioner of human services to establish a program to provide grants to high school and undergraduate students to conduct opioid awareness and opioid abuse prevention activities, in cooperation with a community partner. The bill also directs the commissioner to apply for federal grant funding for the program; implementation of the program is contingent on receipt of federal grant funding.

Section

1 Student health initiative to limit opioid harm.

Subd. 1. Grant awards. Directs the commissioner of human services, in consultation with the commissioner of education, the Board of Trustees of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Private College Council, and the regents of the University of Minnesota, to develop and administer a grant program for high school students and undergraduate students, to conduct opioid awareness and opioid abuse prevention activities. Requires grant proposals with more than one community partner to designate a primary community partner. Requires grant applications to be submitted by, and any grant awards managed by, the primary community partner. Provides that grants are for a fiscal year and are one-time.

Subd. 2. Grant criteria. (a) Allows grant dollars to be used for opioid awareness, education on addiction and abuse, initiatives to limit inappropriate prescriptions, peer education, and other initiatives as approved by the commissioner. Requires grant

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Section

projects to include one or more of the following components: high-risk populations, law enforcement, education, clinical services, or social services.

- (b) Directs the commissioner to seek to provide grant funding for at least one proposal that addresses opioid abuse in the American Indian community.
- **Subd. 3. Community partners.** Provides a partial listing of the entities that may serve as community partners.
- **Subd. 4. Report.** Requires the commissioner to report to the chairs and ranking minority members of specified legislative committees, by September 1, 2019, on implementation of the grant program and the grants awarded.

Provides that the section is effective only upon receipt of federal grant funding awarded in response to an application under section 2.

- Federal grants. (a) Requires the commissioner of human services to apply for any federal grant funding that aligns with the purposes of section 1. Requires the commissioner, if federal grant funding is awarded, to develop and administer an opioid awareness and abuse program in a manner consistent with section 1, to the extent allowed under the federal grant. Requires the commissioner to submit to the legislature any changes to the program established under section 1 necessary to comply with the terms of the federal grant.
 - (b) Requires the commissioner to notify the chairs and ranking minority members of specified legislative committees of any grant applications submitted, and federal actions taken related to the applications.