

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Authors:** Leppik and others

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**Analyst:** Randall Chun, 651-296-8639

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### Overview

This bill creates a tobacco prevention endowment fund and a tobacco prevention board to administer the fund.

- 1 Public official.** Amends § 10A.01, subd. 18. Includes in the definition of "public official" a member or employee of the tobacco prevention board, or an independent contractor or consultant providing services to the board.
- 2 Tobacco prevention board.** Adds § 144.3941. Creates a 12 member tobacco prevention board.
  - Subd. 1. Purpose.** States the purpose of the board is to reduce the human and economic consequences of tobacco use through prevention strategies.
  - Subd. 2. Creation.** States that the board consists of 12 members appointed under subdivision 3. Prohibits members from having direct economic ties to the tobacco industry, including the acceptance of political contributions.
  - Subd. 3. Appointment.** Specifies membership as follows: (a) five members appointed by the governor, at least one of whom has experience in tobacco use prevention or research and one of whom is on the board of directors of the Minnesota partnership for action against tobacco; (b) three members appointed by the speaker of the house, at least one of whom has experience in tobacco use prevention or research; (c) three members appointed by the subcommittee on committees of the senate, at least one of whom has experience in tobacco use prevention or research; and (d) the commissioner of health.
  - Subd. 4. Terms; compensation.** States that the board is governed by section 15.0575, except that terms are for three years.
  - Subd. 5. Duties.** States that the board is to administer the endowment fund established in section 3.
  - Subd. 6. Staffing.** Allows the board to hire legal and other personnel.
  - Subd. 7. Sunset.** States that this section expires January 1, 2023.

- 3 Tobacco prevention endowment fund.** Adds § 144.3942. Establishes a tobacco prevention endowment fund using a portion of the proceeds of the tobacco settlement.
- Subd. 1. Creation.** Creates the tobacco prevention endowment fund as an account in the state treasury and requires the commissioner of finance to credit to the fund 37 percent of the tobacco settlement proceeds received by the state in fiscal years 1999 to 2003. Sets requirements for fund administration, and specifies that fund assets revert to the general fund after January 1, 2023.
- Subd. 2. Expenditures.** Requires assets of the fund to be appropriated by law for measures to prevent the use of tobacco products. Allows up to 5 percent of the market value of the fund to be appropriated each year of a biennium.
- 4 Appropriation.** Notwithstanding the limitation in section 3, subdivision 2, appropriates unspecified amounts from the tobacco prevention endowment fund to the tobacco prevention board for tobacco use prevention measures for the next biennium.