

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill limits the use of family planning grant funds, establishes requirements for organizations receiving the funds, requires organizations to conduct independent audits, and specifies that organizations receiving Title X funds are not prohibited from providing services required in order to receive the funds.

Section

- 1** **Family planning grant funds not used to subsidize abortion services.** Adds § 145.417. Limits the use and eligibility for family planning grants and establishes application requirements.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines the terms "abortion," "family planning grant funds," "family planning services," "nondirective counseling," and "public advocacy" for the purposes of the section.

Subd. 2. Uses of family planning grant funds. States that no family planning grant funds be: (1) spent to directly or indirectly subsidize abortion services or administrative expenses; (2) paid or granted to an organization or an affiliate of an organization that provides abortion services, unless the affiliate is independent; or (3) paid or granted to an organization that has adopted or maintains a policy that considers abortion part of a continuum of family planning services, reproductive health services or both.

Section

Subd. 3. Organizations receiving family planning grant funds. States that an organization receiving family planning grant funds must: (1) provide nondirective counseling relating to pregnancy, but may not directly refer patients seeking abortion services to any organization that provides abortion services; (2) not display or distribute materials about abortion services to patients; (3) not engage in public advocacy promoting the legality or accessibility of abortion; and (4) be separately incorporated from any affiliated organization that provides abortion services.

Subd. 4. Independent affiliates that provide abortion services. States that an organization receiving family planning grants must not be affiliated with an organization that provides abortion services unless the organizations are independent from each other. In order to be independent, the organizations must not share any of the following: (1) the same or similar name; (2) medical/non-medical facilities; (3) expenses; (4) employee wages/salaries; or (5) equipment or supplies. Organizations receiving family planning grants that are affiliated with organizations providing abortion services must maintain financial records to demonstrate independence and compliance with this subdivision and demonstrate that no direct or indirect economic or marketing benefit from the family planning grants was received by the organization providing abortion services.

Subd. 5. Independent audit. Requires an organization applying for a family planning grant to submit a copy of the organization's most recent independent audit with the grant application to ensure compliance with this section. Requires the audit to have been conducted within two years of the application submission.

Subd. 6. Organizations receiving Title X funds. Provides that nothing in this section requires organizations receiving Title X funds under the Public Health Act to stop providing any services required as a condition of receiving those funds.

Subd. 7. Severability. States that if any part of the section is found unconstitutional, the balance of the section remains in effect.