

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Colorectal Cancer Screening

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Overview

This bill would require the Office of Management and Budget (MMB) to provide grants to Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC) and MeritCare Bemidji to provide colorectal cancer screening services to uninsured and underinsured applicants. This bill includes eligibility criteria for applicants and states the screening services that would be provided using these grants. Additionally, this bill would provide an appropriation to the University of Minnesota School of Public Health to evaluate the program and make recommendations for increasing the number of Minnesotans who are screened.

Section

1 Minnesota Colorectal Cancer Prevention Act.

Subd. 1. Purpose. Describes the intent of this legislation.

Subd. 2. Establishment. Requires MMB to provide grants to HCMC and MeritCare Bemidji to provide colorectal cancer screening to eligible uninsured and underinsured applicants.

Subd. 3. Eligibility. Provides the eligibility requirements for screening under this program. States that applicants must:

- Be at least 50 years of age, or under 50 years of age but at high risk for colon cancer;
- Be uninsured or underinsured (have insurance that does not cover the full cost of colorectal cancer screening); and
- Have a gross family income at or below 250 % of the federal poverty level.

Subd. 4. Services. States that the services provided under this program include

colon cancer screening, follow-up services for abnormal tests and diagnostic services.

Subd. 5. Treatment. Provides that medical assistance will cover the treatment costs for any enrollee screened under this program who is diagnosed with colorectal cancer. States that the coverage ends when the course of treatment ends, but that a new coverage period would begin each time an enrollee is screened under this program and needs treatment for colorectal cancer.

Subd. 6. Project evaluation. Requires the University of Minnesota, School of Public Health, to evaluate this program and make recommendations for increasing the number of Minnesotans who are screened for colon cancer. Requires the University to report its findings to the Legislature by January 1, 2011.

2 Appropriations.

- (a) Provides a blank appropriation from the general fund in fiscal year 2010 to the Office of Management and Budget for grants to HCMC and MeritCare Bemidji to provide colorectal cancer screenings.
- (b) Provides a blank appropriation from the general fund in fiscal year 2010 to the University of Minnesota to conduct an evaluation of these demonstration projects, as is required in section 1, subd. 6.