

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 617 **DATE:** March 5, 2011  
**Version:** As introduced  
**Authors:** Woodard and others  
**Subject:** Aligning the AmeriCorps Innovation program with federal law  
**Analyst:** Lisa Larson

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: [www.house.mn/hrd](http://www.house.mn/hrd).

---

### Overview

Changes references from Minnesota Youthworks Act to AmeriCorps Innovation Act and makes other changes to conform to applicable federal law.

- 1 **Citation; AmeriCorps Innovation Act.** Changes the name of the law from the Minnesota Youthworks Act to the AmeriCorps Innovation Act
- 2 **Federal law.** Makes a technical change to a federal law citation.
- 3 **AmeriCorps Innovation program.** States that the program exists to provide funding that the Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service can use to leverage federal and private funding for the purposes of the act. Requires the program to supplement existing programs and services.
- 4 **AmeriCorps Innovation grants.**
  - Subd. 1. Application.** Directs the Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service to establish and publish grant application guidelines that are consistent with the statutory requirements of the act, include criteria for reviewing an applicant's cost benefit analysis, and require grantees to use research-based measures of program outcomes to generate data that the commission can use to evaluate the programs and report to the public.
  - Subd. 2. Grant authority.** Makes a technical change; requires the Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service to use available state and federal funds to establish AmeriCorps Innovation programs.
- 5 **Program training.** Directs the Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service to provide guidance to grantee organizations on integrating performance-based measures into program models.

- 6**      **Match requirements.** Requires AmeriCorps Innovation grant funds to be used for training and evaluating program participants, among other things. Strikes language allowing these funds to be used to supplement applicant resources to fund post-service benefits for program participants.
- 7**      **Interim report.** Requires the Minnesota Commission on National and Community Service to report annually, instead of semiannually to the legislature.
- 8**      **Repealer.** Repeals the definitions of mentor (Minn. Stat. § 124D.38, subd. 4), participant (Minn. Stat. § 124D.38, subd. 5), and placement (Minn. Stat. § 124D.38, subd. 6).