

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 645
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Subject: Collaborative program to end unemployment

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H.F. 645 appropriates an unspecified amount of money each year beginning in fiscal year 2012 from the general fund to the commissioner of DEED to develop, implement and administer a grant program to reduce unemployment. The commissioner must collaborate with several councils including:

- The Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans;
- The Council on Black Minnesotans; and
- The Council on Affairs of Chicano/Latino People.

The program must include components to:

- Reduce the high unemployment rate of minorities in Minnesota;
- Emphasize training and license preparation to individuals in growing professions including: health care, construction, transit system development, professional trade services, social assistance services, accommodation and food services, retail trade, educational services, administrative and waste services, finance and insurance, and energy and green jobs;
- Assist, coordinate and provide placement support for persons trained, licensed or educated under the program; and
- Support and coordinate skill development in areas including: financial literacy, English language skills, technical and technology training, and health education.