

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 789
Version: First Engrossment

DATE: March 6, 2013

Authors: Dorholt and others

Subject: Open Educational Resource Council

Analyst: Matt Gehring

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/.

Overview

Creates an Open Educational Resource Council and assigns the council duties relating to use of digital open source resources in higher education institutions.

Section

1 Open Educational Resource Council.

Subd. 1. Digital open source resources. Defines “digital open source resources” and “educational materials” for purposes of this section.

Subd. 2. Establishment of council. Creates the Open Educational Resource Council. Membership includes faculty from the University of Minnesota, MnSCU, and private colleges and institutions. Provides that the director of the Office of Higher Education, or a designee, serves as a non-voting member and shall provide administrative and technical support to the council. Provides for membership terms, compensation, filling of vacancies, and removal of members. Authorizes the council, in coordination with the director of the Office of Higher Education, to employ an executive director and other staff.

Subd. 3. Duties. Specifies council duties relating to use of digital open source resources in higher education institutions. These duties include development of strategies for use of these resources, developing a program to offer faculty skills necessary to implement use of these resources, development (if possible) of an open textbook catalog, and creating and administering a review process for digital open source resources. Specifies that this section does not mandate use of a digital open source textbook.

Section

Subd. 4. Grants. Authorizes the council to apply for grants.

2 Reports. Requires reports on carrying out duties under this bill.

3 Appropriation. Appropriates \$500,000 from the general fund to the director of the Office of Higher Education.