

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill provides a new grant program for healthy housing that awards grants from the department of health for education, training, and activities that address threats that are hazards to human health found in the home. The bill appropriates money for the healthy housing grants program and for lead poisoning prevention activities.

Section

1 Healthy Housing Grant.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Provides definitions for “healthy housing” meaning housing that is designed or renovated to support the health of the residence and “housing based health threats” which are chemical, biological, or physical agents in the home’s environment that create a hazard to human health.

Subd. 2. Grants; administrations. Provides that the commissioner of the department of health can accept grant proposals for competitively awarded grants and recipients must submit quarterly progress reports and that the commissioner will provide technical assistance and program support to ensure that health threats are identified, mitigated, and evaluated by those receiving grants.

Subd. 3. Education and training grants; eligible activities. Provides that grants shall be awarded to organizations that can provide outreach, education, and training on healthy homes subjects and to those addressing threats. This section specifically provides for what grantees must do including education, training, and practices.

Section

Subd. 4. Healthy homes implementation grant; eligible activities. Directs the commissioner of the department of health to make grants to local boards of health to support the healthy housing programs that will mitigate hazards that contribute to health problems, ensure screening and prevention measures to high risk populations, promote compliance with the department of health guidelines to prevent and reduce housing health threats, create groups to coordinate resources to combat housing health threats, and develop models to address housing-based health threats.

- 2 Appropriations.** Directs that \$400,000 is appropriated from the general fund in 2014 and again in 2015 to the commissioner of health for the Healthy Housing Grant Program for education and training and are added to the program's base funding. This section also provides \$800,000 in 2014 and again in 2015 from the general fund to the commissioner of health for the healthy homes implementation grants and are added to the program's base funding. This section also provides \$450,000 in 2014 and again in 2015 from the general fund to the commissioner of health for lead poisoning prevention activities under the Lead Poisoning Prevention Act and are added to the program's base funding.