

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Library Accessibility and Improvement Grants

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Overview

Public library accessibility grants were first authorized by the 1994 Legislature to help communities remove architectural barriers at their public libraries. The program was broadened about a decade later to include other remodeling projects.

Most public library buildings are owned and operated by cities or counties. The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) oversees the regional public library system and is responsible for administering this grant program.

H.F. 1501 appropriates \$3,000,000 from the state bond proceeds fund to MDE for facility grants to public libraries.

Section

- 1 Library accessibility and improvement grants.** Authorizes the state to sell and issue up to \$3,000,000 of general obligation bonds to fund library accessibility and improvement grants. Appropriates \$3,000,000 from the bond proceeds fund to the commissioner of education for these grants.