

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 315  
**Version:** As introduced

**DATE:** February 19, 2013

**Authors:** Benson, J. and others

**Subject:** Food Shelves and Food Stamp Outreach

**Analyst:** Danyell A. Punelli, 651-296-5058

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

This bill provides appropriations for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 for food shelf programs and food stamp (food support) outreach.

The Minnesota Food Shelf Program (MFSP) distributes funds to local food shelves for the purchase of nutritious food, and to fund food shelf operating and administrative costs.

In response to low food support participation (66.1 percent of those in poverty, federal fiscal year 2010), DHS established statewide outreach.

More than 400 agencies and individuals that serve people in need at the state, county and community levels have formed self-sustaining and voluntary initiatives to promote Food Support outreach.

The goals of the outreach initiative are to:

- educate the community about the purpose and use of food support;
- dispel the myths associated with food support;
- increase access to information and application of the program; and
- increase participation, especially among the working poor and the elderly.

### Section

- 1**      **Food shelf programs.** Appropriates \$500,000 in fiscal year 2014 and \$500,000 in fiscal year 2015 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the MFSP.

**Section**

Makes this appropriation part of the base.

- 2**      **Food Stamp outreach.** Appropriates \$500,000 in fiscal year 2014 and \$500,000 in fiscal year 2015 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the Food Stamp and Food Support Outreach Program for food stamp outreach grants to food shelves for outreach training, equipment, and increased staff to work with clients.