HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill appropriates funds to the Office of Higher Education, the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, the University of Minnesota, and the Mayo Clinic. It also expands eligibility for participation in state financial aid programs to certain noncitizens, increases the expected student share of the cost of attendance for purposes of determining the amount of a state grant, increases the maximum amount of a child care grant, and permits specified appropriations to be transferred to other financial aid accounts within the Office of Higher Education.

Article 1: Higher Education Appropriations

This article appropriates funds in fiscal years 2014 and 2015 for higher education.

Section

- Summary of appropriations. Summarizes appropriations for the biennium ending June 30, 2015. Total appropriations of approximately \$2.74 billion consists of \$2.735 billion from the general fund, and \$4.3 million from the health care access fund.
- **Higher education appropriations.** Specifies that appropriations contained in the bill are for fiscal years 2014 (first year) and 2015 (second year).
- Minnesota Office of Higher Education. Appropriates \$236.4 million in fiscal year 2014 and \$235.1 million in fiscal year 2015 from the general fund to the Office of Higher Education, as described below.

Section

- **State Grants** at \$195.8 million in each year, and sets the tuition maximum for students in four-year programs at \$13,526. For students in two-year programs, the tuition maximum is \$5,865 in FY 2014 and \$6,040 in FY 2015. The living and miscellaneous expense allowance is \$8,300 each year.
- Child Care Grants at \$6.68 million per year.
- **State Work-Study** at \$14.5 million per year.
- **Interstate Tuition Reciprocity** at \$5.5 million in 2014 and \$4.2 million in 2015, with transfer authority between years if necessary.
- Safety Officer's Survivor Grants at \$100,000 per year.
- **Indian Scholarships** at \$3.35 million per year, with a requirement that at least one person with demonstrated competence in American Indian culture and who lives in or near Bemidji be employed to assist students with the American Indian scholarship and other financial aid programs at Bemidji State University.
- **Intervention for College Attendance Program Grants** at \$671,000 per year, which includes funding to administer the program grants.
- **Student-Parent Information** at \$122,000 per year.
- **Get Ready** at \$180,000 per year.
- Midwest Higher Education Compact at \$95,000 per year.
- **Minnesota Minority Partnership** at \$45,000 per year.
- United Family Medicine Residency Program at \$351,000 per year.
- MnLINK Gateway and Minitex at \$5.6 million per year.
- Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System (SLEDS) at \$882,000 per year. \$582,000 of the appropriation in each year is to the Office of Higher Education for transfer to the Office of Enterprise Technology to maintain infrastructure and acquire additional data through purchase and development. Standards for payment of additional costs is provided. The base for this appropriation beginning in FY 2016 is \$300,000.
- **Agency Administration** at \$2.49 million per year.

This section allows any balances in the first year to carry forward to the second year.

Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. Appropriates approximately \$576.87 million in FY 2014 and \$593.87 million in FY 2015 from the general fund, as described below.

Section

- Central Office and Shared Services Unit at \$33.07 million per year.
- **Operations and Maintenance** at \$539.68 million in FY 2014 and \$556.68 million in FY 2015. Of this appropriation:
 - --\$4 million in FY 2014 and \$8 million in FY 2015 are for an **internship and apprenticeship program**, provided that the 2015 funds are to be distributed when the board demonstrates that \$3 million in nonstate matching funds have been secured for the program.
 - --\$12.5 million in FY 2014 and \$13.5 million in FY 2015 are for a **leveraged equipment program**, to support awards to purchase high-skill equipment and training opportunities for students, provided that the 2015 funds are to be distributed when the board demonstrates that \$7.5 million in nonstate matching funds have been secured for the program.
 - --\$4 million per year is for a **faculty driven innovations program**, to enable faculty to enhance the quality of instruction and accelerate student progress through technology-driven learning.
 - --\$11 million in FY 2014 and \$23 million in FY 2015 are to **retain high-quality faculty and staff**.
- Learning Network of Minnesota at \$4.12 million per year.
- **Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota.** Appropriates approximately \$545.3 million in each year from the general fund, and \$2.16 million in each year from the health care access fund, as described below.
 - Operations and Maintenance at \$483.88 million per year. Of this appropriation, \$645,000 in each year must be transferred to the Hennepin County Medical Center for graduate family medicine education programs.
 - **Primary Care Education Initiatives** at \$2.16 million per year from the health care access fund.
 - **Special Appropriations,** as follows:
 - --Agricultural and Extension Service at \$42.92 million per year, for a number of specified purposes described in the bill, with a required report to the legislature on the status and outcomes of research funded by this appropriation.
 - **--Health Sciences** at \$4.85 million per year. Of this appropriation, \$346,000 per year is to support up to 12 resident physicians at the St. Cloud Hospital family practice residency program. The remainder of the appropriation is for the rural physicians associates program, the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, health sciences research, dental care, and the Biomedical Engineering Center.

Section

- **--Institute of Technology** at \$1.14 million per year.
- **--System Special** at \$5.06 million per year.
- --University of Minnesota and Mayo Foundation Partnership at \$7.49 million per year.
- The **Academic Health Center** is estimated to receive funding of \$22.25 million each year from the dedication of a portion of cigarette taxes.
- **Mayo Clinic.** Appropriates approximately \$1.35 million in each year from the general fund, as described below.
 - **Medical School**, at \$665,000 per year.
 - Family Practice and Graduate Residency Program, at \$686,000 per year.

Article 2: State Financial Aid Programs

This article expands eligibility for state financial aid programs to certain noncitizens, increases the maximum amount of the child care grant, increases the required student contribution to the cost of attendance for purposes of determining a state grant amount, and permits transfer of appropriations within various financial aid programs.

Section

Eligibility for grants. Expands eligibility for the state grant program to students who are noncitizens eligible for participation in federal financial aid programs, or who have been granted deferred action for childhood arrivals status pursuant to policy of the United States Department of Homeland Security.

To be eligible for "deferred action" status under the federal policy, a student must have arrived in the United States before turning age 16, be under age 31 as of June 15, 2012, be currently enrolled in or a graduate of a high school, certificate, or GED program, not have a criminal background, and meet certain other criteria related to length of time and physical presence in the United States.

- **Grant stipends.** Increases the assigned student responsibility for the recognized cost of attendance from 46 percent to 50 percent. This calculation is used as part of the formula for determining the amount of a student's state grant award.
- Eligible students (child care grant). Expands eligibility for the child care grants to students who are noncitizens eligible for participation in federal financial aid programs, or who have been granted deferred action for childhood arrivals status pursuant to policy of the United States Department of Homeland Security (see description of this policy in section 1, above).
- **Amount and length of grants.** Increases the maximum child care grant award from \$2,600 to \$2,800 per academic year.

Section

- **Student eligibility (Indian scholarships).** Expands eligibility for the Indian Scholarship program to students who are noncitizens eligible for participation in federal financial aid programs, or who have been granted deferred action for childhood arrivals status pursuant to policy of the United States Department of Homeland Security (see description of this policy in section 1, above).
- **Transfers.** Permits the Office of Higher Education to transfer appropriation balances among other specified appropriations, provided that transfers from child care or state work-study appropriations are only permitted if there is a projected surplus in the appropriation.
- **Definitions (work-study program).** Expands eligibility for the work-study program to students who are noncitizens eligible for participation in federal financial aid programs, or who have been granted deferred action for childhood arrivals status pursuant to policy of the United States Department of Homeland Security (see description of this policy in section 1, above).
- **Repealer.** Repeals an existing administrative rule limiting eligibility for students to participate in state financial aid programs to students who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States.