

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill changes funding requirements for organizations that provide full cycle homeownership services, to help low and moderate income individuals buy and keep their homes, by directing the Minnesota Housing and Finance Agency (MHFA) to work with disadvantaged nonprofit housing organizations and provide grant and funding eligibility to assist them in providing services. This bill also requires MHFA to work with minority nonprofits on homelessness and to focus on an end to homelessness for children and veterans, including Asian and Pacific Americans and Asian American Special forces veterans.

Section

- 1 Disadvantaged nonprofit housing organization.** Provides that “disadvantaged nonprofit housing organization” mean an organization that provides services related to housing, homelessness, homeownership, or tenancy and serves disadvantaged and underserved populations and has not received equitable or sustainable funding from the state or federal agencies in previous fiscal years.
- 2 Full cycle homeownership services.** Provides that disadvantaged nonprofit housing organizations can receive funding to provide homeownership education, counseling, and training programs to assist in providing homeownership services to low and moderate income home buyers and homeowners.
- 3 Definitions.** Provides a definition for “eligible organizations” which are community-based nonprofit organizations, disadvantaged nonprofit organizations, or political subdivisions that can be eligible for funding for full cycle homeownership services.

Section

- 4** **Eligibility.** Provides that disadvantaged nonprofit housing organizations are exempted from a competitive award process when funding is not able to meet the needs of all applicants. This section changes the eligibility requirements for training and certification that affect funding. This section also requires the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to work in partnerships with community-based initiatives including disadvantaged nonprofit service providers and provides the disadvantaged nonprofit service providers with an exception from funding requirements. This section adds specifications about what constitutes a disadvantaged nonprofit service provider and what services MHFA shall provide to them.
- 5** **Grant award.** Requires the MHFA to provide a portion of the grants for full cycle homeownership services to disadvantaged nonprofit housing organizations for capacity building, training, and certification to allow them to apply for funds under this chapter.
- 6** **Interagency coordination on homelessness.** Requires the MHFA to coordinate all state agencies and minority nonprofits on activities relating to homelessness. This bill also includes culturally appropriate nonprofits in consultation with state agencies on homelessness. This section also directs that the Interagency Council on Homelessness is to give priority to reducing homelessness amount veterans and children, including Asian and Pacific Americans and Asian American Special forces veterans. This section provides a definition for Asian and Pacific Americans and Asian American Special forces veterans.