

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 352  
**Version:** First engrossment

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**Subject:** Healthy Eating, Here at Home

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### Overview

This bill establishes the healthy eating, here at home program. This program is based on the Market Bucks incentive program that was funded by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota.

#### Section

**1 Healthy Eating, Here at Home.** Creates § 256E.345.

**Subd. 1. Establishment.** Establishes the healthy eating, here at home program to provide incentives for low-income Minnesotans to use federal SNAP benefits for healthy purchases at Minnesota-based farmers' markets.

**Subd. 2. Definitions.** Paragraph (a) specifies the definitions in this subdivision apply to this section.

Paragraph (b) defines "healthy eating, here at home."

Paragraph (c) defines "healthy purchases."

Paragraph (d) defines "Minnesota-based farmers' market."

Paragraph (e) defines "voucher."

Paragraph (f) defines "eligible household."

**Subd. 3. Grants.** Requires the commissioner to allocate grant funds to nonprofit organizations that work with Minnesota-based farmers' markets to provide vouchers to SNAP participants who use EBT cards for healthy purchases. Allows funds to be provided for vouchers distributed through nonprofit organizations engaged in healthy

## Section

cooking and food education outreach to eligible households for use at farmers' markets. Specifies how the commissioner must award grants.

**Subd. 4. Household eligibility; participation.** Requires eligible households to meet Minnesota SNAP eligibility requirements under the Food Stamp Employment and Training Program.

**Subd. 5. Permissible uses; information provided.** Allows an eligible household to use the voucher toward healthy purchases at Minnesota-based farmers' markets. Requires eligible households that receive a voucher to be informed of the allowable uses of the voucher.

**Subd. 6. Program reporting.** Specifies reporting requirements for nonprofit organizations that receive grant funds.

**Subd. 7. Grocery inclusion.** Requires the commissioner to submit a waiver request to the USDA seeking approval for the inclusion of Minnesota grocery stores in this program. Specifies that grocery store participation is voluntary and a grocery store's administrative costs will not be reimbursed.

**2 Appropriation.** Appropriates \$1,000,000 in each year of the 2016-17 biennium from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the healthy eating, here at home program. Limits the amount of grant funding that may be used for administration of the program.