

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Council on International Medical Graduates

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Overview

This bill creates the Council on International Medical Graduates. The council is tasked with multiple duties, including, but not limited to, awarding various grants to assist with the training and employment of international medical graduates. The bill also appropriates an unspecified amount of money to the commissioner of health from the general fund for grant programs and operations of the council.

Section

1 Council on International Medical Graduates. Adds § 144.1911.

Subd. 1. Findings; establishment. States the legislative findings and states that the Council on International Medical Graduates is created to address barriers to practice for immigrant international medical graduates to integrate into the Minnesota health care system.

Subd. 2. Definitions. Defines terms.

Subd. 3. Governance. States that the Council of International Medical Graduates shall have 16 members appointed by the commissioner of health and lists membership. Requires initial appointments to be made by July 1, 2015. Also states that the council is governed by section 15.059, except that it shall not expire unless by action of the council.

Subd. 4. Powers; duties; program administration. States 13 duties of the council, including, but not limited to, award grants to eligible nonprofit organizations to provide career guidance, develop standardized assessment of the clinical readiness of

Section

eligible immigrant international medical graduates, and award grants to support clinical preparation for those graduates.

Subd. 5. Board of Medical Practice. States that this section does not alter the Board of Medical Practice's authority to regulate the practice and licensing of medicine.

Subd. 6. Appropriations; gifts; grants. Allows the council to apply for, accept, and disburse gifts, grants, and loans for council purposes.

Subd. 7. Staffing. Requires the commissioner of health to conduct the activities listed in subdivision 4 on behalf of the council, with input from the council, and provide staff necessary to perform those duties. Allows the council to ask for assistance from other state government units to fulfill its duties.

Subd. 8. Report. Requires the council to submit an annual report to the commissioner and legislature by January 15 each year.

- 2 **Appropriation.** Appropriates an unspecified amount in fiscal year 2016 to the commissioner of health from the general fund for the grant programs and operations of the council. Requires the council and commissioner to develop recommendations for additional funding and submit a report to the legislature by December 31, 2015.