

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

The commissioner of health administers grant programs that support rural health care facilities and grant programs that train or provide loan forgiveness to health professionals working in rural areas of the state. This bill establishes a grant program to fund new or existing family medicine residency positions in residency programs that are located outside the seven-county metro area and that have a focus and history of training physicians for practice in greater Minnesota.

Section

- 1 **Greater Minnesota family medicine residency grant program.** Adds section 144.1912. Creates a program administered by the commissioner of health to award grants to family medicine residency programs that are located outside the seven-county metro area and that have a demonstrated history of training physicians for practice outside the metro area.
 - Subd. 1. Definitions.** Defines terms: commissioner and eligible family medicine residency program.
 - Subd. 2. Program administration.** Directs the commissioner to award grants to existing, eligible, nonprofit family medicine residency programs to fund new and existing residency positions. Requires funds to be allocated first for new residency positions, with remaining funds allocated for existing positions. Allows the commissioner to fund a new residency position for up to three years, lists allowable uses for grant funds, and prohibits funds from supplanting other funds available for residency positions.
 - Subd. 3. Applications.** Establishes a process for programs to apply for grant funds.

Section

Subd. 4. Program oversight. Allows the commissioner to collect information from residency programs that the commissioner needs to administer and evaluate the grant program.

- 2 **Grant program; appropriation.** Appropriates \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 for the grant program. Specifies that base level funding for the 2018-2019 biennium shall be \$1,000,000 each fiscal year.