HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 31 **DATE:** March 16, 2015
Version: As introduced

Authors: Quam and others

Subject: Victims of economic crimes

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Overview

This bill assists victims of economic crimes. It requires the commissioner of Public Safety (DPS) to establish a victims' assistance program and authorizes issuance of identity theft passports to eligible victims.

Section

1 **Financial Crimes Task Force.** Directs DPS, with the advice of the FCTF advisory board, to develop a comprehensive process to assist victims of identity theft to: (1) report crimes to the appropriate authorities, and (2) protect, correct, and restore their accounts and identity.

2 **Victims' assistance program.** Changes from permissive to mandatory DPS's requirement to establish a victims' assistance program and provide public outreach. Requires DPS to assist identity theft victims in obtaining "identity theft passports" created under section 3.

3 **Identity theft passport.**

> **Subd. 1.** Authorizes DPS, in cooperation with any law enforcement agency, to issue an identity theft passport to a victim of identity theft who filed a police report.

> **Subd. 2.** Outlines the application process which is initially filed with law enforcement. Law enforcement then sends the application to DPS for processing.

> **Subd. 3.** Provides that the victim may present an identity theft passport: (1) to law enforcement to help prevent the victim's arrest for a crime committed by the identity thief; or (2) to a creditor to aid in the identity theft investigation.

> **Subd. 4.** Provides that acceptance of an identity theft passport is at the discretion of the law enforcement agency or creditor.

Section

   Subd. 5. Classifies application data and supporting documents as private data on individuals.

   Subd. 6. Authorizes rulemaking to implement this section.