HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Version: As introduced

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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.

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 cooking and food education outreach to eligible households for use at farmers'

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markets. Specifies how the commissioner must award grants and the information that must be included in a nonprofit organization's plan for voucher distribution.

- **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.
- **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.