

# 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 15 members appointed by the commissioner of health in consultation with the Board of Medical Practice 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 19 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 eligible immigrant international medical graduates, award grants to support clinical

## **Section**

preparation for those graduates, award grants to clinical sites participating in an apprenticeship program as created by this section, work with physician assistant training programs to explore alternatives for admission requirements for international medical graduates, and award grants for the development of an immigrant international medical graduate physician assistant pilot program.

**Subd. 5. Coordination with Board of Medical Practice.** Requires the council and Board of Medical Practice to work in partnership to develop certain listed programs under subdivision 4. 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.