

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Section

1 **Getting to work grant program.** Directs the commissioner of employment and economic development to make grants to nonprofit organizations to establish and operate programs that provide, repair and maintain motor vehicles to assist eligible individuals to obtain or retain employment. A qualified grantee must be a 501(c)(3) entity and have the capacity to offer a motor vehicle program that meets the qualifications of the new program. The new program would require the following components:

- provision of a new or used motor vehicle by gift, sale or lease;
- motor vehicle repair and maintenance services; or
- motor vehicle loans.

A qualifying program must also offer at least one of the following services:

- financial literacy;
- education on budgeting for vehicle ownership;
- car maintenance and repair instruction;
- credit counseling; or
- job training related to motor vehicle maintenance and repair.

Section

Grant applications must specify a description of the services to be offered, where the service will be offered, and estimate of the number of program participants and a plan for leveraging assistance from the following:

- auto dealers;
- auto parts dealers;
- independent mechanics and repair facilities;
- banks and credit unions;
- employers;
- employment and training agencies;
- insurance companies and agents;
- local workforce centers; and
- educational institutions.

To participate, an individual must:

- have a household income no higher than 200 percent of the federal poverty level;
- be at least 18 years old;
- have a valid driver's license'
- provide proof of insurance; and
- demonstrate to the grantee that motor vehicle ownership is required to obtain or retain employment.

Grants must be allocated equally so that they are available throughout the state.

Outcome evaluation and a report to the legislature is required.

- 2** **Appropriation.** Appropriates \$4,500,000 from the general fund in fiscal year 2016 for the new grant program.