HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1517   **DATE:** March 9, 2015
    Version: As Introduced

    Authors: Norton and others

    Subject: Development of a plan to encourage college completion.

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H.F. 1517 requires the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) to develop a comprehensive plan to encourage students to complete degrees, diplomas, or certificates in their fields of study. The bill requests that the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota develop such a plan.

The board must consult with students, faculty, and administrators in developing such a plan, and provide the plan and an implementation schedule to the higher education committees of the legislature. The bill requests that the University of Minnesota engage in the same consultation and reporting.

The bill suggests several policies that MnSCU and the University of Minnesota could include in the plan, but does not require that the plan include these suggestions. The policies listed in the bill are as follows:

- Replacing developmental or remedial courses with credit-bearing "corequisite" courses.
- Expanding the use of intrusive advising, including early alert systems and requiring advisor or counselor approval to register for certain classes.
- Offering students the option of declaring a "meta-major" as an alternative to an undeclared major.
- Offering students a mathematics curriculum tailored to their field of study.
- Implementing opt-out scheduling that automatically registers students in a schedule of courses that is required for their degrees.
- Facilitating the transfer of credit between MnSCU institutions.
- Encouraging students to enroll full-time, including offering financial aid to encourage students to enroll full-time instead of enrolling part-time while working.