

File Number: H.F. 2073
Version: As introduced

Date: March 9, 2017

Authors: Drazkowski

Subject: Public subsidy program repeal

Analyst: Matt Gehring, 651-296-5052

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd/.

This bill repeals the campaign finance public subsidy program. The public subsidy program currently provides financial support to candidates for state office who agree to certain campaign requirements as a condition of receiving the subsidy. These conditions include an agreement to abide by spending limits and limits on certain types of contributions over the course of the campaign, among other requirements.

The public subsidy program is funded, in part, by a legislative appropriation as well as through funds provided voluntarily through the income tax “checkoff” for the state campaign subsidy accounts.

Instead of receiving a public subsidy, the bill would provide candidates the opportunity to voluntarily pledge to abide by the spending limits and other conditions provided in law for the receipt of a public subsidy. The voluntary pledge would be filed with the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board and posted on the board’s website. Apart from posting a candidate’s pledge online, the board would have no other role in enforcing compliance with its terms.