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Overview

This bill expands the definition of “traumatic brain injury” for purposes of eligibility for services under the state traumatic brain injury program. The bill also appropriates money for a grant to the Minnesota Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (MOFAS), to fund regional partnerships focused on reducing fetal alcohol syndrome disorders and prenatal drug-related effects.

Section

- 1** **Definitions.** Amends section 256B.093, subd. 4. Modifies definition of “traumatic brain injury” by removing the exception for brain injuries that are congenital in nature.
- 2** **Appropriation.** Paragraph (a) appropriates \$500,000 in fiscal year 2018 and fiscal year 2019 for a grant to MOFAS. Requires that MOFAS make grants to eligible regional collaboratives that fulfill the requirements of paragraph (c), and allows MOFAS to retain up to 8 percent for administrative costs and technical support.

Paragraph (b) defines “eligible regional collaboratives” as partnerships between local governments and community-based organizations.

Paragraph (c) requires eligible regional collaboratives to use grant funds to reduce fetal alcohol syndrome disorders and prenatal drug-related effects in children by identifying pregnant women suspected of substance use or abuse and providing intensive services.

Paragraph (d) requires MOFAS to make grants to collaboratives in rural and urban areas.

Section

Paragraph (e) requires grantees to report annually to the commissioner on services and programs funded by the appropriation, including measurable outcomes such as the number of pregnant women served and the number of babies born free of toxins.