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### Overview

House File 3760 establishes a program to award grants to school districts that install solar energy systems on school buildings to generate electricity.

#### Section

#### 1 [216C.418] Solar energy grants for school districts.

**Subd. 1. Definitions.** Defines a “school district” as an independent or special school district.

Defines “solar energy system” as a photovoltaic device that may be combined with a solar thermal or energy storage system.

**Subd. 2. Establishment.** Establishes a grant program in the Department of Commerce to award grants to school districts that install solar energy systems.

**Subd. 3. Eligible applicants.** Restricts eligibility to school districts receiving electric service from Xcel Energy.

**Subd. 4. Eligible expenditures.** Provides that grants may pay up to 95 percent of the purchase and installation costs of a solar energy system, or may pay up to that proportion of a solar lease or solar power purchase contract. The solar system capacity must be less than 300kW and must match the building's electric load.

**Subd. 5. Application process.** Requires grant applications to be submitted to the commissioner of the Department of Commerce, who must develop administrative

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procedures to govern the grant award process and criteria for determining priorities among grant applications.

**Subd. 6. Geographical distribution of grants.** Requires the commissioner to endeavor to award grants to school districts in all regions of Xcel's electric service territory.

**Subd. 7. Other funds.** Allows a school district to issue debt under section 123B.62 to pay its share of the costs of the project.

**Subd. 8. Administrative costs.** Provides that the Department of Commerce may use up to . . . percent of the appropriation in subdivision 9 to pay reasonable administrative costs of the program.

**Subd. 9. Appropriation.** Appropriates \$. . . from the renewable development account in fiscal year 2019 for the grant program. Funds remains available until June 30, 2021.