

Subject Housing discrimination testing funding

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Summary

This bill appropriates \$500,000 in fiscal year 2022 from the general fund to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for grants to nonprofits to investigate and report on housing discrimination because of race, national origin, disability, color, creed, religion, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, or familial status by conducting statewide fair housing testing. The grant funds may be used to recruit and train testers and for test result analysis. Grant recipients may share test results with state or federal agencies that handle fair housing discrimination complaints or use the information to advocate for the rights of the prospective renter or purchaser.

A preliminary report is due to the leadership of the housing policy and finance legislative committees by February 15, 2022, with a final report due by February 15, 2023. The report must identify the organizations receiving grants and how the grant funds were spent, the number of investigations or tests conducted, the types of housing tested, the location of tests, any other activities undertaken, and the outcomes of the cases, if known.