

**Subject** Website Accessibility Grants to Local Governments

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## Overview

This bill modifies the powers and duties of the Council on Disability to allow the council to award website accessibility grants. An advisory council is created to assist the Council on Disability in making the grant awards. The bill also appropriates \$1 million from the general fund to cities and counties to improve website accessibility.

## Summary

| Section | Description |
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| 1 | <p><b>Modification of powers and duties of Council on Disability.</b></p> <p>Amends section 256.482, subdivision 5, to allow the Council on Disability to apply for, accept, and disburse grants and other financial aid from public or private sources.</p>   |
| 2 | <p><b>Website accessibility grants.</b></p> <p>Establishes a website accessibility grant program, with grants to be awarded by the Council on Disability. A Website Accessibility Grant Advisory Council is established to review grant applications and make recommendations to the Council on Disability on the grants to be awarded. The advisory council is comprised of members from nonprofit organizations, state agencies, and the public. The Council on Disability must submit an annual report to the legislature on the grants awarded under the program, with the first report due on or before January 15, 2022.</p> |
| 3 | <p><b>Appropriation; cities and counties.</b></p> <p>Appropriates \$1 million in fiscal year 2022 from the general fund to the Council on Disability for grants to cities and counties to improve website accessibility. Up to 15 percent of the appropriation may be used for administrative purposes. The appropriation is available until June 30, 2025.</p>  |



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