

**Subject** Pathway Home Act

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## Overview

This bill modifies grant awards for the Homeless Youth Act; appropriates money for several homeless services programs, including emergency services grants, the Homeless Youth Act, and transitional housing; and appropriates \$150 million for emergency shelter facilities. The bill also includes a section that states this act shall be known as the “Pathway Home Act.”

Emergency services grants provide homeless persons essential services and emergency shelter. These grants are awarded on a competitive basis and provide emergency shelter, motel vouchers, day shelter, and essential services to children, unaccompanied youth, single adults, and families who are experiencing homelessness.

The Homeless Youth Act provides services to people who are 24 years of age or younger who are unaccompanied by a parent or guardian and without shelter where appropriate care and supervision are available, whose parent is unable or unwilling to provide shelter and care, or who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

The transitional housing programs provide housing for a homeless person or family at a rental rate of 25% of family income for a period of up to 36 months. Transitional housing may also include up to six months of follow-up support services for persons who complete transitional housing as they stabilize in permanent housing.

## Summary

Section	Description
1	<p><b>Awarding of grants.</b></p> <p>Amends § 256K.45, by adding subd. 8. Permits Homeless Youth Act grant recipients who receive two-year grant contracts to carry over any unexpended amount from the first contract year to the second contract year.</p>
2	<p><b>Title.</b></p> <p>Specifies this act shall be known as the “Pathway Home Act.”</p>
3	<p><b>Department of Human Services Appropriations.</b></p> <p>Appropriates money for various homeless services programs.</p> <p><b>Subd. 1. Emergency services grants.</b> Appropriates \$20 million in each year of the 2024-25 biennium from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for emergency services grants. Specifies grant allocation balances in the first year do not cancel and are available in the second year. Sets the base appropriations for fiscal years 2026 and 2027.</p> <p><b>Subd. 2. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).</b> Appropriates \$250,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$1 million in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services to support the HMIS. Sets the base appropriations for fiscal years 2026 and 2027.</p> <p><b>Subd. 3. Homeless Youth Act grants.</b> Appropriates \$12.5 million in each year of the 2024-25 biennium from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for Homeless Youth Act grants. Specifies this appropriation is available until June 30, 2027. Sets the base appropriations for fiscal years 2026 and 2027.</p> <p><b>Subd. 4. Homeless youth; chosen family grants.</b> Appropriates \$2 million in fiscal year 2024 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for grants to providers serving homeless youth and youth at risk of homelessness in Minnesota to establish or expand services that formalize situations where a caring adult whom a youth considers chosen family allows the youth to stay at the adult’s residence to avoid being homeless. Specifies this is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2025.</p> <p><b>Subd. 5. Transitional housing programs.</b> Appropriates \$4.5 million in each year of the 2024-25 biennium from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for transitional housing programs.</p> <p><b>Subd. 6. Human services appropriations.</b> Appropriates \$1,204,422 in fiscal year 2024 and \$1,392,968 in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the</p>

**Section Description**

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commissioner of human services for the cost of administering the grants in subds. 1 and 3-5. Sets base appropriations for future fiscal years.

**4 Emergency shelter facilities.**

Appropriates \$150 million for emergency shelter facilities.

**Subd. 1. Definitions.** Defines the terms “commissioner,” “eligible applicant,” and “emergency shelter facility.”

**Subd. 2. Appropriation.** Appropriates \$150 million in fiscal year 2024 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for grants to eligible applicants for the acquisition of property, site preparation, predesign, design, construction, renovation, furnishing, and equipping of emergency shelter facilities.

Appropriates \$397,633 in fiscal year 2024 and \$800,824 in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the administration of the emergency shelter facilities grants. Sets base appropriations for future fiscal years.

Sets aside up to \$4 million of the appropriation for the Simpson Housing Services shelter in Minneapolis.

**Subd. 3. Project criteria.** Requires the commissioner to prioritize grants for projects that improve or expand emergency shelter facility options.

Limits grant to up to \$10 million per project. Requires the commissioner to give priority to projects in which the eligible applicant will provide at least ten percent of total project funding for applicants seeking funding for the acquisition and construction of new emergency shelter facilities.

Requires all projects funded with an emergency shelter facility grant to meet all applicable state and local building codes at the time of project completion.

Requires the commissioner to use a competitive request for proposal process to identify potential projects and eligible applicants on a statewide basis. Requires at least 40% of grant funds to be awarded to projects in greater Minnesota.

Specifies this is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2028.

Provides a July 1, 2023, effective date.



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