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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 1376

02/06/2023 Authored by Kozlowski, Keeler, Becker-Finn, Pérez-Vega, Finke and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; establishing a reward fund for information on missing
1.3 and murdered Indigenous relatives; appropriating money; proposing coding for
1.4 new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 299A.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. 299A.86 REWARD FUND FOR INFORMATION ON MISSING AND
1.7 MURDERED INDIGENOUS RELATIVES.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Fund created. A reward fund for information on missing and murdered
1.9 Indigenous relatives is created as an account in the state treasury. Money appropriated or
1.10 otherwise deposited into the account is available to pay rewards and for other purposes as
1.11 authorized under this section.

1.12 Subd. 2. Reward. (a) The director of the Office for Missing and Murdered Indigenous
1.13 Relatives, in consultation with the reward advisory group:

1.14 (1) shall determine the eligibility criteria and procedures for granting rewards under this
1.15 section; and

1.16 (2) is authorized to pay a reward to any person who provides relevant information relating
1.17 to a missing and murdered Indigenous relative investigation.

1.18 (b) A reward paid under this section may not exceed \$.....

1.19 Subd. 3. Reward advisory group. (a) The director of the Office for Missing and
1.20 Murdered Indigenous Relatives, in consultation with the stakeholder groups described in
1.21 section 299A.85, subdivision 5, shall appoint an advisory group to make recommendations

2.1 on paying rewards under this section. The advisory group shall consist of the following  
2.2 individuals:

2.3 (1) a representative from the Office for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives;

2.4 (2) a representative from a Tribal, statewide, or local organization that provides legal  
2.5 services to Indigenous women and girls;

2.6 (3) a representative from a Tribal, statewide, or local organization that provides advocacy  
2.7 or counseling for Indigenous women and girls who have been victims of violence;

2.8 (4) a representative from a Tribal, statewide, or local organization that provides services  
2.9 to Indigenous women and girls;

2.10 (5) a Tribal peace officer who works for or resides on a federally recognized American  
2.11 Indian reservation in Minnesota; and

2.12 (6) a representative from the Minnesota Human Trafficking Task Force.

2.13 (b) The advisory group shall meet as necessary but at a minimum twice per year to carry  
2.14 out its duties and shall elect a chair from among its members at its first meeting. The director  
2.15 shall convene the group's first meeting. The director shall provide necessary office space  
2.16 and administrative support to the group. Members of the group serve without compensation  
2.17 but shall receive expense reimbursement as provided in section 15.059.

2.18 (c) The representative from the Office for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives  
2.19 may fully participate in the advisory group's activities but may not vote on issues before  
2.20 the group.

2.21 Subd. 4. **Advertising.** The director of the Office for Missing and Murdered Indigenous  
2.22 Relatives, in consultation with the reward advisory group, may spend up to four percent of  
2.23 available funds on an advertising or public relations campaign to increase public awareness  
2.24 on the availability of rewards under this section.

2.25 Subd. 5. **Grants; donations.** The director of the Office for Missing and Murdered  
2.26 Indigenous Relatives, in consultation with the reward advisory group, may apply for and  
2.27 accept grants and donations from the public and from public and private entities to implement  
2.28 this section.

2.29 Subd. 6. **Definition.** As used in this section, "missing and murdered Indigenous relatives"  
2.30 means missing and murdered Indigenous people from or descended from one of the United  
2.31 States' federally recognized American Indian Tribes.

3.1 Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION.

3.2 \$110,000 in fiscal year 2024 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner  
3.3 of public safety to implement section 1.