

State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2924

03/10/2016 Authored by Hortman, Applebaum, Erhardt, Lien, Youakim and others  
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Higher Education Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to higher education; appropriating money for the student loan refinancing  
1.3 program.

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

1.5 Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; STUDENT LOAN REFINANCING PROGRAM.**

1.6 (a) \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 is appropriated from the general fund to the  
1.7 commissioner of higher education for deposit in the loan capital fund under Minnesota  
1.8 Statutes, section 136A.1785, to provide additional funding for the student loan refinancing  
1.9 program authorized under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.1704. The commissioner  
1.10 shall use the appropriation under this section to expand eligibility criteria for the student  
1.11 loan refinancing program by reducing the credit score and debt-to-income ratio required to  
1.12 participate in the program. This appropriation is available until expended.

1.13 (b) The commissioner shall report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction  
1.14 over higher education policy and finance by February 15, 2018, on the use of the additional  
1.15 funding under this section. The commissioner shall demonstrate:

1.16 (1) how the appropriation is being used to allow individuals to refinance their student  
1.17 loans who otherwise would not have been eligible to refinance their student loans under  
1.18 the program without the additional funding;

1.19 (2) the number of individuals borrowing under the program as a result of the  
1.20 additional funding; and

1.21 (3) the types of student loans taken out and the total dollar amount borrowed as a  
1.22 result of the additional funding.