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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 3188

02/07/2022 Authored by Huot and Wolgamott

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; appropriating money to provide reimbursements to state
1.3 and local law enforcement agencies that have paid incentive bonuses to encourage
1.4 individuals to become peace officers; requiring a report; proposing coding for new
1.5 law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 299A.

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

1.7 Section 1. [299A.625] REIMBURSEMENT GRANTS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT
1.8 AGENCIES FOR NEW PEACE OFFICER HIRING BONUSES.

1.9 Subdivision 1. Grants authorized. The commissioner of public safety may make
1.10 reimbursement grants as provided in this section to local law enforcement agencies that
1.11 have paid recruitment bonuses to newly hired peace officers. Agencies may apply for grants
1.12 on forms prescribed and as directed by the commissioner. The maximum amount of a grant
1.13 is \$10,000 per officer hired. An agency may apply for multiple grants to cover multiple
1.14 eligible bonuses. Grants are awarded at the discretion of the commissioner and are limited
1.15 to the amount appropriated for this purpose.

1.16 Subd. 2. Grant eligibility. Law enforcement agencies may offer recruitment bonuses
1.17 to provide incentives to individuals to become peace officers with the agency. A
1.18 reimbursement grant under this section may be made only if the peace officer was hired
1.19 after having received notice of the availability of a recruitment bonus and only after the
1.20 agency has paid the bonus. An officer is eligible for a bonus upon reaching the officer's one
1.21 year anniversary of starting employment at the agency and only if the officer is a member
1.22 in good standing with the agency. A grant may be awarded only for a bonus paid to a newly
1.23 licensed peace officer hire. Grants may not reimburse bonuses paid to officers moving
1.24 laterally from other jurisdictions within the state. If the demand for grants exceeds the

2.1 amount appropriated, the commissioner shall award grants in a manner that ensures that
2.2 grants are distributed to agencies in a geographically balanced manner and also in a balanced
2.3 manner in terms of the size of the law enforcement agencies receiving grants.

2.4 Subd. 3. **Report required.** By January 15 of each year, the commissioner shall report
2.5 to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees having jurisdiction
2.6 over criminal justice policy and funding on the grant program. At a minimum, the report
2.7 must provide detailed information on the grants awarded under this section, including the
2.8 amount of each grant and the recipient agency, and the number of new hires made in whole
2.9 or in part because of the grants.

2.10 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.11 \$15,000,000 is appropriated from the general fund for the fiscal year ending June 30,
2.12 2023, to the commissioner of public safety for the grant program described in section 1. This
2.13 is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.