

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3443

03/21/2016 Authored by Howe

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on State Government Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to the military; establishing a service member and veteran service center
1.3 pilot grant program; appropriating money.

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

1.5 Section 1. **SERVICE MEMBER AND VETERAN SERVICE CENTER PILOT**
1.6 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Grant program.** A service member and veteran service center pilot
1.8 grant program is established to be administered by the commissioner of veterans affairs.
1.9 The program consists of grant awards to nonprofits that serve service members, veterans,
1.10 and their families to enable the nonprofit service member and veteran service center to
1.11 enhance the effectiveness of its services.

1.12 Subd. 2. **Eligibility.** (a) To be eligible for a grant under subdivision 4, a service
1.13 member and veteran service center must, at a minimum:

1.14 (1) provide space where service members, veterans, and their families are able
1.15 to gather;

1.16 (2) assist service members, veterans, and their families with finding local, state, and
1.17 federal resources;

1.18 (3) assist service members, veterans, and their families in connecting with services,
1.19 resources, and advocacy in the areas of law, education, employment, housing, health,
1.20 and wellness;

1.21 (4) utilize public and private partnerships to share resources and increase innovation
1.22 to effectively assist service members, veterans, and their families; and

1.23 (5) be a nonprofit corporation as defined in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue
1.24 Code.

(b) Any grant awarded under this section to a service member and veterans service center requires a 50 percent match from nonstate sources.

Subd. 3. **Grant process.** (a) The commissioner shall determine the process for awarding grants. A grant may be used only for the purpose of enhancing the operations of or renovating the facility of a service member and veteran service center.

(b) The commissioner must give preference to service member and veterans service centers that:

(1) demonstrate meaningful collaboration with other organizations that enhance the services offered by the service center; and

(2) are located outside of the metropolitan area, as defined in section 473.121, subdivision 2.

(c) Grants under this section must be awarded by June 30, 2017.

Subd. 4. **Grant amount.** A service member and veteran service center is eligible to receive a onetime grant of \$..... under this section.

Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION; SERVICE MEMBER AND VETERAN SERVICE CENTER PILOT GRANT PROGRAM.

\$500,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2017 from the general fund to the commissioner of veterans affairs for the service member and veteran service center pilot grant program under section 1. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.