

SENATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

S.F. No. 1272

(SENATE AUTHORS: HAWJ, Hoffman, Senjem and Fischbach)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/02/2015	501	Introduction and first reading Referred to Health, Human Services and Housing
04/07/2015		Comm report: To pass as amended and re-refer to Finance

A bill for an act
relating to human services; appropriating money to the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing
Services Division; appropriating money for services for people who are deaf,
deafblind, or hard-of-hearing.

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

Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING SERVICES
DIVISION.**

\$750,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$750,000 in fiscal year 2017 are appropriated from
the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing
Services Division under Minnesota Statutes, section 256C.233. The funds must be used
for the following purposes:

- (1) to provide linguistically and culturally appropriate psychiatric services for
children who are deaf, deafblind, or hard-of-hearing;
- (2) to hire an age-related hearing loss specialist;
- (3) to ensure that each regional advisory committee meets at least quarterly;
- (4) to increase the number of deafblind Minnesotans receiving services;
- (5) to conduct an analysis of how the regional offices and staff are distributed in
order to determine if the current distribution best serves the needs of the deaf, deafblind,
and hard-of-hearing community throughout Minnesota; and
- (6) to conduct an analysis of whether services are being provided in the best and
most efficient way possible, with input from deafblind Minnesotans receiving services.

Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION; SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE DEAF,
DEAFBLIND, AND HARD-OF-HEARING.**

2.1 \$250,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$250,000 in fiscal year 2017 are appropriated from
2.2 the general fund to the commissioner of human services for deaf and hard-of-hearing
2.3 grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 256C.261. The funds must be used to increase
2.4 the number of deafblind Minnesotans receiving services.