

State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 987

02/18/2015 Authored by Selcer, Pelowski, O'Neill, Rosenthal, Pugh 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; clarifying regulation of postsecondary study abroad
1.3 programs; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 5.41, subdivisions 2, 3.

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

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 5.41, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

1.6 Subd. 2. **Report.** (a) A postsecondary institution must file by November 1 of each
1.7 year a report on its programs with the secretary of state. The report must contain the
1.8 following information from the previous academic year, including summer terms:

1.9 (1) deaths of program participants that occurred during program participation as a
1.10 result of program participation; ~~and~~

1.11 (2) accidents and illnesses that occurred during program participation as a result of
1.12 program participation and that required hospitalization; and

1.13 (3) program name, program host, and program type for all incidents reported in
1.14 clauses (1) and (2).

1.15 Information reported under clause (1) may be supplemented by a brief explanatory
1.16 statement.

1.17 (b) A postsecondary institution must request, but not mandate, incident disclosure
1.18 from students upon completion of the program.

1.19 (c) A postsecondary institution must report to the secretary of state annually by
1.20 November 1 whether its program complies with health and safety standards set by the
1.21 Forum on Education Abroad or a similar study abroad program standard setting agency.

1.22 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 5.41, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

2.1 Subd. 3. **Secretary of state; publication of program information.** (a) The secretary
2.2 of state must publish the reports required by subdivision 2 on its Web site in a format that
2.3 facilitates identifying information related to a particular postsecondary institution.

2.4 (b) The secretary of state shall publish on its Web site ~~the best available information~~
2.5 ~~by country~~ links to the United States Department of State's Consular Information Program
2.6 which informs the public of conditions abroad that may affect their safety and security. The
2.7 secretary of state shall also publish links to the publicly available reports on sexual assaults
2.8 and other criminal acts affecting study abroad program participants during program
2.9 participation. This information shall not be limited to programs subject to this section.