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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 2509

03/14/2019 Authored by Freiberg and Carlson, L.,
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations
03/09/2020 Adoption of Report: Amended and re-referred to the State Government Finance Division

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to state government; establishing a Volunteerism Innovation Board;
1.3 requiring grants; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota
1.4 Statutes, chapter 129E.

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

1.6 Section 1. **[129E.01] MINNESOTA VOLUNTEERISM INNOVATION BOARD.**

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Board established; membership.** (a) A Minnesota Volunteerism
1.8 Innovation Board is established. The board consists of the following members:

- 1.9 (1) three members appointed by the governor;
- 1.10 (2) two members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
- 1.11 (3) one member appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives;
- 1.12 (4) two members appointed by the president of the senate; and
- 1.13 (5) one member appointed by the minority leader of the senate.

1.14 (b) In addition to the members appointed under paragraph (a), a representative of the
1.15 contractor providing administrative support under subdivision 4 shall serve as the board's
1.16 secretary and is an ex-officio, nonvoting member of the board. The contractor's representation
1.17 is not subject to the qualification standards in subdivision 2.

1.18 (c) The board shall elect a chair and other officers from among its membership.

1.19 Subd. 2. **Qualifications for appointment.** (a) The appointing authorities must coordinate
1.20 appointments to ensure the inclusion of community leaders from a range of subsectors of
1.21 the nonprofit, public, and business volunteerism communities. Appointees must be

2.1 geographically balanced according to community indicator regions adopted by the state
2.2 demographer, and must reflect a diversity of Minnesota's population.

2.3 (b) The community indicator regions adopted by the state demographer under paragraph
2.4 (a) must reflect the Minnesota Compass regions adopted by Wilder Research, or another
2.5 similar metric for identifying and measuring community indicators in individual regions of
2.6 the state.

2.7 Subd. 3. **Terms of appointment; removal; compensation.** Members of the board shall
2.8 be appointed for a five-year term. Members may be removed and vacancies filled as provided
2.9 in section 15.0575, subdivisions 4 and 5. Members of the board serve without compensation
2.10 or reimbursement for expenses, except for compensation or expense reimbursement that
2.11 the member may receive in the ordinary course of employment or from another nonstate
2.12 source that is not a grant applicant or recipient.

2.13 Subd. 4. **Administrative staff support.** The commissioner of administration must assist
2.14 the board in entering a contract for professional services for administrative support. The
2.15 contractor must have existing, demonstrated expertise in building the capacity of
2.16 organizations to effectively engage volunteers according to best practices in volunteer
2.17 resources leadership.

2.18 Subd. 5. **Duties.** The board must:

2.19 (1) gather information about, analyze, and build upon Minnesota's current capacity for
2.20 sustained high quality, results-driven, evidence-based, innovative volunteerism in order to
2.21 expand Minnesotans' ability to act on challenges and opportunities that correspond directly
2.22 to Minnesota Compass measures, or other similar community indicators, and positively
2.23 impact Minnesota communities;

2.24 (2) study and assess the capacity of Minnesota nonprofit, public, and business
2.25 organizations to expand and deepen volunteer efforts that address community challenges
2.26 and opportunities through sustained high quality, results-driven volunteerism and then make
2.27 related recommendations to community and volunteer engagement leaders and report the
2.28 study results and recommendations to the governor and the legislature;

2.29 (3) gather baseline information about the capacity of Minnesota volunteer-involving
2.30 organizations to demonstrate results through volunteering best practices and by tracking,
2.31 analyzing, and reporting grant activities and measurable grant results with a common
2.32 grant-tracking and grant-reporting system; and

2.33 (4) administer the grant program required by section 129E.02.

3.1 Subd. 6. **Legislative reports.** By November 15 of each year, the board shall prepare
3.2 and deliver to the legislature and the governor a report that shall include the following:

3.3 (1) a financial statement showing receipts and disbursements for the year ending the
3.4 preceding June 30, including a listing of the nonstate gifts and contributions to the Minnesota
3.5 volunteerism innovation account established in section 129E.03 that are valued in excess
3.6 of \$1,000 along with the donor who contributed the gift;

3.7 (2) a brief description of the activities of the board for the preceding year;

3.8 (3) the number of meetings and approximate hours spent by board members in meetings
3.9 and on other board activities;

3.10 (4) a brief summary of board rules proposed or adopted during the period with appropriate
3.11 citations to the State Register and published rules; and

3.12 (5) the number of grant applications received by the board, and the number of grants
3.13 awarded, with a brief description of the purpose and outcomes of each awarded grant and
3.14 the region of the state where the grantee is located.

3.15 Subd. 7. **Expiration.** The board expires June 30, 2025.

3.16 Sec. 2. **[129E.02] MINNESOTA VOLUNTEERISM INNOVATION GRANTS.**

3.17 Subdivision 1. **Grants; measures of progress.** The Minnesota Board on Volunteerism
3.18 Innovation must administer a grant program intended to increase measurable results of
3.19 innovative volunteer efforts aligned with Minnesota Compass measures, or other similar
3.20 community indicators, in areas that impact Minnesotans' quality of life. The measures must
3.21 serve as indicators of progress to be measured in order to determine the recipient's progress
3.22 toward identified community goals. An applicant for a grant must identify the measures to
3.23 be used when applying for a grant.

3.24 Subd. 2. **Eligibility; nonstate match required.** Grants may be awarded to organizations
3.25 in the public, nonprofit, or business sector that directly engage primarily nonstipend
3.26 volunteers. To be eligible for a grant, an applicant must match the grant funds requested to
3.27 be awarded in full. The match may be demonstrated through a direct contribution of funds,
3.28 or through in-kind contributions, including the value of staff and volunteer time provided
3.29 by the applicant, the applicant's community partners, or other nonstate sources. The value
3.30 of time of volunteers who receive a stipend may not be counted toward the match
3.31 requirement. The value of time of volunteers who receive reimbursement for direct
3.32 volunteer-related expenses may be counted toward the match requirement. Grants may be
3.33 renewed at the discretion of the board.

4.1 Subd. 3. Rules and laws governing grantmaking process. The board must adopt
4.2 administrative rules to establish procedures governing the application for grants, evaluation
4.3 of applications, and other requirements for awarding grants, including procedures to ensure
4.4 that grant awards are equitably distributed to applicants in all regions of the state. Sections
4.5 16B.97 to 16B.991 apply to the award of grants by the board. The terms of the grant
4.6 agreement must require that all activities funded by the grant be completed no later than
4.7 June 30, 2025.

4.8 Subd. 4. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2025.

4.9 **Sec. 3. [129E.03] MINNESOTA VOLUNTEERISM INNOVATION ACCOUNT.**

4.10 A volunteerism innovation account is established in the special revenue fund. The account
4.11 consists of amounts appropriated to the account by law, and other gifts and contributions
4.12 to the account received by the commissioner of management and budget under section
4.13 16A.013 from nonstate sources for deposit in the account. Amounts in the account are
4.14 appropriated to the Minnesota Volunteerism Innovation Board for the purposes described
4.15 in this chapter.

4.16 **Sec. 4. MINNESOTA VOLUNTEERISM INNOVATION BOARD;**
4.17 **APPOINTMENTS; FIRST MEETING.**

4.18 Initial appointments to the Minnesota Volunteerism Innovation Board must be made no
4.19 later than August 1, 2020. The commissioner of administration must convene the first
4.20 meeting of the board no later than September 1, 2020.

4.21 **Sec. 5. MINNESOTA VOLUNTEERISM INNOVATION BOARD;**
4.22 **APPROPRIATION.**

4.23 \$600,000 in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from the general fund to the volunteerism
4.24 innovation account in the special revenue fund established by Minnesota Statutes, section
4.25 129E.03. Of this amount, no more than \$70,000 may be used to support administrative costs
4.26 associated with implementing the requirements of this act. All remaining amounts must be
4.27 distributed as grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 129E.02.