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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 2699

03/25/2019 Authored by Vang; Her; Xiong, J.; Noor; Hassan and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to the legislature; requiring the legislature to offer translation services to
1.3 individuals who are members of a language minority; amending Minnesota Statutes
1.4 2018, section 3.055, by adding a subdivision.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 3.055, is amended by adding a subdivision
1.7 to read:

1.8 Subd. 1b. Translation services. To the extent practicable, the legislature must offer
1.9 translation services and translated written materials to individuals who are members of a
1.10 language minority. The translation services must assist these individuals in providing
1.11 testimony in open meetings of legislative committees and in other interactions with legislators
1.12 and the legislative process. Written materials required to be translated include but are not
1.13 limited to official documents, brochures, and informational materials produced by the
1.14 legislature, and newsletters, updates, and other mass communications sent from legislators
1.15 to constituents. Written materials include all those provided in print or online. Translators
1.16 provided under this subdivision must be certified by the American Translators Association.
1.17 The house of representatives and the senate must adopt policies to implement this subdivision,
1.18 including policies to ensure the communities most likely to benefit from translation services
1.19 are adequately notified of the availability and process for accessing these services while on
1.20 the Capitol complex.

1.21 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2020.