

A bill for an act
relating to public safety; establishing a pilot project to provide services to
ex-criminal offenders now in the community; requiring a report; appropriating
money.

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

Section 1. **PILOT PROJECT; APPROPRIATION.**

(a) \$250,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, and \$225,000 for the fiscal
year ending June 30, 2009, are appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner
of corrections for a grant to a nonprofit organization to establish a pilot project to
provide employment services to ex-criminal offenders living in the North Minneapolis
community. The pilot project must provide the ex-offender participants with a continuum
of employment services that identifies their needs; intervenes with them through case
management if they are struggling; and provides them with work readiness, skill
training, chemical and mental health referrals, housing support, job placement, work
experience, and job retention support. The pilot project shall work with community
corrections officials, faith-based organizations, and businesses to create an array of
support opportunities for the participants.

(b) By January 15, 2010, the commissioner of corrections shall report to the chairs
and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives committees and
divisions having jurisdiction over criminal justice policy and funding on the activities
conducted by the grant recipient and the effectiveness of the pilot project.