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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 3688

02/13/2024 Authored by Hassan The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to health; establishing a licensed psychologist income subsidy pilot
1.3 program; requiring reports; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law
1.4 in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 144.

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

1.6 Section 1. [144.1914] LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST INCOME SUBSIDY PILOT
1.7 PROGRAM.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the following definitions
1.9 apply.

1.10 (b) "Designated rural area" has the meaning given in section 144.1501, subdivision 1,
1.11 paragraph (f).

1.12 (c) "Licensed psychologist" means a person licensed by the Board of Psychology under
1.13 chapter 148.

1.14 (d) "Underserved urban community" has the meaning given in section 144.1501,
1.15 subdivision 1, paragraph (t).

1.16 Subd. 2. Establishment. (a) The commissioner of health must establish a licensed
1.17 psychologist income subsidy pilot program to provide payments to eligible participants.
1.18 The pilot program terminates on June 30, 2031.

1.19 (b) A licensed psychologist income subsidy pilot program account is established. The
1.20 commissioner of health must use money from the account to establish an income subsidy
1.21 pilot program for eligible licensed psychologists. Payments must be made directly to the
1.22 licensed psychologist on a schedule determined by the commissioner.

2.1 (c) Appropriations made to the account do not cancel and are available until expended,
2.2 except that at the end of each biennium, any remaining balance in the account that is not
2.3 committed by contract and not needed to fulfill existing commitments must cancel to the
2.4 fund.

2.5 Subd. 3. **Eligibility.** To be eligible to participate in the income subsidy pilot program,
2.6 an individual must submit an application to the commissioner of health. To be eligible to
2.7 participate in the program, the applicant must be a licensed psychologist in good standing
2.8 who, at the time of application, is not practicing psychology and has not practiced for at
2.9 least 12 months. For purposes of this section, practicing psychology does not include
2.10 psychological research and teaching of psychology. A person is eligible to participate in
2.11 the program for a maximum of five years. To be eligible to receive payment for services
2.12 provided from the program, the services must be provided in a designated rural area or
2.13 underserved urban community.

2.14 Subd. 4. **Rulemaking.** The commissioner may adopt rules to implement this section.

2.15 Subd. 5. **Reports.** (a) By January 30, 2028, the commissioner of health must submit an
2.16 initial report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with
2.17 jurisdiction over the Department of Health. The report must include an overview of the pilot
2.18 program implementation, the number of psychologists who have participated in the program,
2.19 the dollar amount of payments made, the number of hours of services provided by program
2.20 participants, the geographical locations served by program participants, and any
2.21 recommendations to the legislature for changes to the pilot program.

2.22 (b) By January 30, 2032, the commissioner of health must submit an initial report to the
2.23 chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over
2.24 the Department of Health. The report must include the number of psychologists who have
2.25 participated in the program, the dollar amount of payments made, the number of hours of
2.26 services provided by program participants, the geographical locations served by program
2.27 participants, and any recommendations to the legislature on whether the program should
2.28 be implemented as a permanent program.

2.29 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.30 \$..... in fiscal year 2025 and \$..... in fiscal year 2026 are appropriated from the general
2.31 fund to the commissioner of health for the licensed psychologist income subsidy pilot
2.32 program.