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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 581

02/05/2015 Authored by Wills; Halverson; Dean, M.; Zerwas; Bernardy and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services Reform
02/19/2015 Adoption of Report: Re-referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to human services; modifying the Homeless Youth Act; appropriating
1.3 money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 256K.45, subdivision 1a.
1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 256K.45, subdivision 1a, is amended to
1.6 read:

1.7 Subd. 1a. **Definitions.** (a) The definitions in this subdivision apply to this section.
1.8 (b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of human services.

1.9 (c) "Homeless youth" means a person ~~21~~ 24 years of age or younger who is
1.10 unaccompanied by a parent or guardian and is without shelter where appropriate care and
1.11 supervision are available, whose parent or legal guardian is unable or unwilling to provide
1.12 shelter and care, or who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The
1.13 following are not fixed, regular, or adequate nighttime residences:

1.14 (1) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary
1.15 living accommodations;

1.16 (2) an institution or a publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide
1.17 temporary living accommodations;

1.18 (3) transitional housing;

1.19 (4) a temporary placement with a peer, friend, or family member that has not offered
1.20 permanent residence, a residential lease, or temporary lodging for more than 30 days; or

1.21 (5) a public or private place not designed for, nor ordinarily used as, a regular
1.22 sleeping accommodation for human beings.

1.23 Homeless youth does not include persons incarcerated or otherwise detained under
1.24 federal or state law.

2.1 (d) "Youth at risk of homelessness" means a person ~~21~~ 24 years of age or younger
2.2 whose status or circumstances indicate a significant danger of experiencing homelessness
2.3 in the near future. Status or circumstances that indicate a significant danger may include:
2.4 (1) youth exiting out-of-home placements; (2) youth who previously were homeless; (3)
2.5 youth whose parents or primary caregivers are or were previously homeless; (4) youth
2.6 who are exposed to abuse and neglect in their homes; (5) youth who experience conflict
2.7 with parents due to chemical or alcohol dependency, mental health disabilities, or other
2.8 disabilities; and (6) runaways.

2.9 (e) "Runaway" means an unmarried child under the age of 18 years who is absent
2.10 from the home of a parent or guardian or other lawful placement without the consent of
2.11 the parent, guardian, or lawful custodian.

2.12 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.13 \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 are appropriated
2.14 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for purposes of Minnesota
2.15 Statutes, section 256K.45.