

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

S.F. No. 1577

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DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/11/2015	674	Introduction and first reading Referred to Higher Education and Workforce Development See SF5, Art. 3, Sec. 16

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to higher education; requiring Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
1.3 to implement a goal of timely degree and certificate completion; proposing
1.4 coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 136F.

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

1.6 Section 1. **[136F.3011] TIMELY COMPLETION OF PROGRAMS.**

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Goal; board duties.** The board shall have as a system goal the
1.8 timely completion of degrees or certificates. The board shall continuously monitor and
1.9 adopt strategies that have the potential or that have proven to promote timely completion.
1.10 If the board finds that a strategy is successful at one campus or program, the board must
1.11 assess whether the strategy would be beneficial campuswide or systemwide and, if it
1.12 determines that it would, must implement the strategy for all system programs in which
1.13 the strategy is predicted to be successful. The board may discontinue the strategy for those
1.14 programs where it does not prove beneficial to the goal of timely completion.

1.15 Subd. 2. **Strategies.** Strategies to achieve the goal in subdivision 1 may include, but
1.16 are not limited to:

1.17 (1) replacing developmental or remedial courses, when appropriate, with corequisite
1.18 courses in which students with academic deficiencies are placed into introductory
1.19 credit-bearing coursework while receiving supplemental academic instruction on the
1.20 same subject and during the same term;

1.21 (2) expanding intrusive advising, including the use of early alert systems or requiring
1.22 the approval of an advisor or counselor to register for certain classes;

1.23 (3) developing meta-majors in broad academic disciplines as an alternative to
1.24 undecided majors;

2.1 (4) making available alternative mathematics curriculum, including curriculum most
2.2 relevant to the student's chosen area of study;

2.3 (5) implementing "opt-out scheduling" by automatically enrolling students in a
2.4 schedule of courses chosen by the student's department but allowing students to disenroll
2.5 from those courses if they wish;

2.6 (6) facilitating the transfer of credits between state colleges and universities; and

2.7 (7) encouraging students to enroll full time, including the use of financial assistance
2.8 to reduce a student's need to work.

2.9 Subd. 3. **Report.** (a) The board shall annually by January 15, report to the chairs
2.10 and ranking minority members of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over higher
2.11 education finance on its activities and achievements related to the goal of improving
2.12 timely completion of degrees and certificates. The report must, at a minimum, include:

2.13 (1) the percent of students placed in remedial education;

2.14 (2) the percent of students who complete remediation within one academic year;

2.15 (3) the percent of students that complete college-level gateway courses in one
2.16 academic year;

2.17 (4) the percent of students who complete 30 semester credits per academic year;

2.18 (5) the student retention rate;

2.19 (6) the amount of time needed to complete a degree or certificate; and

2.20 (7) credits earned by those completing a degree or certificate or other program.

2.21 (b) The report must disaggregate data by race, ethnicity, Pell Grant eligibility, and
2.22 age, and provide aggregate data.