

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1469

03/11/2013 Authored by Newton

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Jobs and Economic Development Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to workforce development; appropriating money for a grant to
1.3 Advocating Change Together.
1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. **APPROPRIATION.**

1.6 (a) \$120,000 in fiscal year 2014 and \$120,000 in fiscal year 2015 are appropriated
1.7 from the workforce development fund to the commissioner of employment and
1.8 economic development for a grant to Advocating Change Together (ACT). ACT shall
1.9 implement Explore-Prepare-Act workshops to train up to 720 people with intellectual and
1.10 developmental disabilities across the state in pre-employment and on-the-job advocacy
1.11 skills.

1.12 (b) Program participants must receive training regarding:

1.13 (1) applying for and securing a new job;

1.14 (2) negotiating wages and benefits;

1.15 (3) developing communication skills;

1.16 (4) networking with others to find or increase employment;

1.17 (5) developing professional conduct that includes personal hygiene, grooming, and
1.18 appropriate workplace behaviors;

1.19 (6) advocating for transportation to more actively seek employment or more actively
1.20 participate in work opportunities;

1.21 (7) requesting disability-related accommodations at work or during a job interview;

1.22 (8) integrating support services including social worker, job coach, or service
1.23 provider;

1.24 (9) developing budgeting and money management skills;

- 2.1 (10) participating in supplemental educational services and resources; and
2.2 (11) peer-to-peer supports as people make changes that lead to better work outcomes.
2.3 (c) Program administration must include:
2.4 (1) hosting the training sessions throughout statewide regional offices;
2.5 (2) providing curriculum and program facilitators;
2.6 (3) hosting a Leadership Circle twice each year to set employment goals for the state
2.7 and serve as an advisory council;
2.8 (4) offering peer-to-peer supports to all participants as they seek new employment,
2.9 promotions, and to maintain employment;
2.10 (5) offering peer-to-peer supports to all participants as they seek supports from
2.11 social workers, job coaches, family, or service providers for support and assistance in
2.12 implementing their employment goals;
2.13 (6) evaluating program outcomes via contract with the University of Minnesota
2.14 Institute on Community Integration;
2.15 (7) participating in the Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) 2014
2.16 conference by presenting program results and methods; and
2.17 (8) providing an annual report on the findings of the Explore-Prepare-Act workshops
2.18 in paragraph (a) to the legislature in January 2014 and January 2015.