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State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. **3009**

03/14/2016 Authored by Poppe, Lillie, Considine, Marquart, Sundin and others

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care Policy

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to human services; establishing a community respite care grant program;  
1.3 appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 256.975, by  
1.4 adding a subdivision.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 256.975, is amended by adding a  
1.7 subdivision to read:

1.8 Subd. 12. **Community respite care grant program.** (a) The Minnesota Board  
1.9 on Aging shall award competitive grants to eligible applicants for social model,  
1.10 community-based group respite care day programs for persons with Alzheimer's disease  
1.11 or other dementias who have family caregivers.

1.12 (b) The Minnesota Board on Aging shall:

1.13 (1) develop the criteria and procedures to allocate the grants under this subdivision,  
1.14 evaluate all applicants on a competitive basis, and award the grants;

1.15 (2) develop uniform, statewide reporting requirements for grantees; and

1.16 (3) submit by January 15, 2017, and each January 15 thereafter, a progress report  
1.17 on the community respite care grant program under this subdivision to the chairs and  
1.18 ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction  
1.19 over human services finance and policy. The report must include:

1.20 (i) information on each grant recipient; and

1.21 (ii) an accounting of how the grant funds were spent.

1.22 (c) Grant applicants shall apply to the Minnesota Board on Aging on the forms  
1.23 and according to the timelines established by the board. Applications must include  
1.24 descriptions of:

- 2.1 (1) the applicant's ability to serve persons with Alzheimer's disease or other  
2.2 dementias;
- 2.3 (2) the proposed respite care program, including a description of the site and space  
2.4 available for the program;
- 2.5 (3) transportation needs and resources;
- 2.6 (4) paid staff and volunteer training;
- 2.7 (5) the need for this program in the specified community;
- 2.8 (6) community outreach plans; and
- 2.9 (7) the anticipated start date of the program.
- 2.10 (d) Each program receiving grant funds must meet the following requirements:
- 2.11 (1) assess incoming families for respite care need;
- 2.12 (2) conduct background studies on paid staff and volunteers who have direct contact  
2.13 with program participants;
- 2.14 (3) provide for appropriate staff and volunteer training;
- 2.15 (4) provide services for at least four hours once per week;
- 2.16 (5) provide a 1:2 ratio of staff, including volunteers, to participants;
- 2.17 (6) provide respite care services during the day in a social, nonmedical model; and
- 2.18 (7) provide activities and entertainment for the participants.
- 2.19 (e) Each grantee must provide a ... percent match to the grant funds awarded. The  
2.20 match may include funds and services from other organizations or in-kind donations of  
2.21 space or supplies.
- 2.22 (f) Grant funds may not be used to develop or expand overnight or in-home respite  
2.23 care programs, or for building or capital improvements.
- 2.24 (g) Grant awards are for a period of two years.

2.25 **Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION; COMMUNITY RESPITE CARE GRANTS.**

2.26 \$200,000 in fiscal year 2017 is appropriated from the general fund to the  
2.27 commissioner of human services for the Minnesota Board on Aging to distribute  
2.28 community respite care grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.975, subdivision 12.  
2.29 The board may use up to five percent of the appropriation to administer the community  
2.30 respite care grant program. This appropriation is added to the base.