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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 353

01/24/2019 Authored by Murphy, Lee, Sandstede, Davids, Urdahl and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to capital investment; appropriating money for equipment grants to public
1.3 television stations.

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

1.5 Section 1. PUBLIC TV EQUIPMENT GRANTS.

1.6 (a) \$15,000,000 in fiscal year 2020 is appropriated from the general fund to the
1.7 commissioner of administration for equipment grants to public stations, as defined in
1.8 Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.12, subdivision 2. Prior to this grant distribution, the
1.9 commissioner may use up to 1.5 percent of this appropriation for administrative costs.

1.10 (b) To qualify for an equipment grant the station must meet the eligibility criteria defined
1.11 in Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.12. Before receiving an equipment grant, a station must
1.12 submit to the commissioner a list of the equipment the station plans to purchase with the
1.13 equipment grant. The commissioner may not require the station to purchase equipment
1.14 before receiving the grant money. A station must report to the commissioner a list of the
1.15 equipment purchased with the grant.

1.16 (c) "Equipment" means the physical infrastructure, hardware, and software used for the
1.17 production, dissemination, interconnection, and transmission of digital media content, the
1.18 useful life of which may range from seven to 40 years.

1.19 (d) These grants shall be allocated as follows: two-sevenths of these funds shall be
1.20 awarded to Twin Cities PBS; one-seventh to KSMQ public television in Austin; one-seventh
1.21 to Pioneer Public Television in Granite Falls; one-seventh to Lakeland PBS in Bemidji;

- 2.1 one-seventh to Prairie Public in Fargo/Moorhead; and one-seventh to WDSE public television
- 2.2 in Duluth.