

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION**

**S.F. No. 2527**

(SENATE AUTHORS: **BONOFF and Clausen**)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/10/2014	6079	Introduction and first reading Referred to Higher Education and Workforce Development
03/12/2014		Comm report: To pass as amended and re-refer to Jobs, Agriculture and Rural Development

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to economic development; establishing pilot programs to develop  
1.3 competency standards for apprenticeships in precision manufacturing, health  
1.4 care services, and information technology; appropriating money; amending  
1.5 Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 181A.07, by adding a subdivision.

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

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 181A.07, is amended by adding a  
1.8 subdivision to read:

1.9 Subd. 7. **Approved training programs.** The commissioner may grant exemptions  
1.10 from any provisions of sections 181A.01 to 181A.12 for minors participating in training  
1.11 programs approved by the commissioner; or students in a valid apprenticeship program  
1.12 taught by or required by a trade union, the commissioner of education, the commissioner  
1.13 of employment and economic development, the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State  
1.14 Colleges and Universities, or the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota.

1.15 Sec. 2. **PILOT PROGRAMS; PRECISION MANUFACTURING AND HEALTH**  
1.16 **CARE SERVICES.**

1.17 The commissioner of labor and industry shall establish pilot programs to develop  
1.18 competency standards for apprenticeship programs in precision manufacturing and health  
1.19 care services. The pilot programs shall be administered by the registered apprenticeship  
1.20 program within the Department of Labor and Industry. In establishing the pilot programs,  
1.21 the commissioner may convene recognized industry experts and representative employers  
1.22 to assist in defining credible competency standards acceptable to the information  
1.23 technology and health care services industries.

2.1       Sec. 3. **PILOT PROGRAM; INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.**

2.2             The commissioner of employment and economic development shall establish a pilot  
2.3 program to develop competency standards for an information technology apprenticeship  
2.4 program. In establishing the pilot program, the commissioner may convene recognized  
2.5 industry experts and representative employers to define credible competency standards  
2.6 acceptable to the information technology industry.

2.7       Sec. 4. **OUTCOMES.**

2.8             The outcomes expected from each of the pilot programs listed in sections 1 and  
2.9 2 include:

2.10            (1) establishment of competency standards for entry level and at least two additional  
2.11 higher skill levels for apprenticeship training in each industry;

2.12            (2) verification of competency standards and skill levels and their transferability by  
2.13 representatives of each respective industry;

2.14            (3) clarification of ways for Minnesota educational institutions to engage in  
2.15 providing training to meet the competency standards established; and

2.16            (4) participation from the identified industry sectors.

2.17       Sec. 5. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.18            (a) \$200,000 in fiscal year 2015 is appropriated from the workforce development  
2.19 fund to the commissioner of labor and industry for the pilot programs in section 1. This  
2.20 appropriation is available until June 30, 2017.

2.21            (b) \$100,000 in fiscal year 2015 is appropriated from the workforce development  
2.22 fund to the commissioner of employment and economic development for the pilot program  
2.23 in section 2. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2017.