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State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1550

03/13/2013 Authored by Abeler and Norton

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to health; requiring the commissioner of health to conduct research on  
1.3 the incidence of autism in the Somali population; appropriating money.

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

1.5 Section 1. **DISPARATE RATES OF AUTISM IN SOMALI CHILDREN;**  
1.6 **RESEARCH.**

1.7 (a) The commissioner of health, in collaboration with the University of Minnesota,  
1.8 must implement a research study to investigate the disparate incidence of autism in Somali  
1.9 children compared with other populations in the state and to identify factors that account  
1.10 for increased rates of autism in the Somali population in the state.

1.11 (b) By August 1, 2014, the commissioner must report to the legislature as to the  
1.12 results of the research required in paragraph (a).

1.13 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

1.14 \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2014 is appropriated from the general fund to the  
1.15 commissioner of health for research required under section 1. This appropriation is  
1.16 available until expended.