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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2213

02/13/2012 Authored by Banaian, Nornes and Dettmer
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Higher Education Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to higher education; requiring disclosure of certain course material and
1.3 course information; establishing a MnSCU textbook task force; requiring reports;
1.4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2010, sections 135A.25, subdivision 5; 136F.58,
1.5 subdivision 3, by adding a subdivision.

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

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 135A.25, subdivision 5, is amended to
1.8 read:

1.9 Subd. 5. **Bookstores; course materials.** The University of Minnesota and private
1.10 colleges are encouraged to comply with the requirements ~~for instructors and bookstores~~
1.11 under section 136F.58, ~~subdivision~~ subdivisions 2, 2a, and 3.

1.12 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 136F.58, is amended by adding a subdivision
1.13 to read:

1.14 Subd. 2a. **Course schedule and material list.** (a) Each state college and university
1.15 shall compile a course schedule indicating each course offered by the state college or
1.16 university for each term and shall include with the course schedule a list of the required
1.17 and recommended course materials that specifies, to the extent practicable, the information
1.18 required in subdivision 3, paragraph (b).

1.19 (b) At the time required by subdivision 3, paragraph (b), a state college or university
1.20 shall publish course schedules and course material lists in hard copy format and on the
1.21 state college's or university's Web site.

1.22 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 136F.58, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

2.1 Subd. 3. **Notice to purchase.** (a) An instructor or department shall ~~make reasonable~~
 2.2 ~~efforts to~~ notify a bookstore of the final order for required and recommended course
 2.3 material at least ~~30~~ 45 days prior to the commencement of the term.

2.4 (b) The bookstore must make reasonable efforts to notify students of the following
 2.5 information concerning the required and recommended course material at least ~~15~~ 30 days
 2.6 prior to the commencement of the term for which the course material is required including,
 2.7 but not limited to:

2.8 (1) the title, edition, author, and International Standard Book Number (ISBN) of
 2.9 the course material;

2.10 (2) the retail price for the course material, including custom textbooks;

2.11 (3) ~~whether the required course material is bundled with optional material, whether~~
 2.12 ~~it can be unbundled, and the price for each bundled and unbundled component~~ the name of
 2.13 the publisher of the course material; and

2.14 (4) whether the material is available in an alternative format and the cost for the
 2.15 alternatively formatted material; and

2.16 (5) the most recent copyright date of the course material and the copyright date of
 2.17 the three previous editions of the course material, if any.

2.18 (c) For purposes of this subdivision, "custom textbooks" means course materials
 2.19 that are compiled by a publisher at the direction of a faculty member or, if applicable,
 2.20 the other adopting entity in charge of selecting course materials for courses taught at a
 2.21 state college or university. Custom textbooks may include items such as selections from
 2.22 original instructor materials, previously copyrighted publisher materials, copyrighted
 2.23 third-party works, or elements unique to a specific state college or university.

2.24 Sec. 4. **MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TEXTBOOK**
 2.25 **TASK FORCE.**

2.26 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The board of trustees shall establish a task force
 2.27 to study methods that result in lower textbook costs for students. The task force must
 2.28 examine and evaluate the effectiveness of existing state and federal textbook legislation
 2.29 that increases the amount of information on textbooks provided to faculty, bookstores,
 2.30 and students and limits bundling of textbooks and course materials, including how this
 2.31 legislation has impacted textbook costs for students. The task force must also explore
 2.32 alternative textbook delivery methods, including a cross-campus shared delivery system
 2.33 for textbooks, the expansion of electronic text books with an assessment of effective
 2.34 methods for delivering e-books to students, and other technology-based, innovative, or
 2.35 best practices methods to bring real cost-savings to students.

- 3.1 Subd. 2. **Members.** The members of the textbook task force include the following:
- 3.2 (1) the chancellor or designee;
- 3.3 (2) one member of the board of trustees;
- 3.4 (3) one member of the Inter-Faculty Organization;
- 3.5 (4) one member of the Minnesota State College Faculty;
- 3.6 (5) one member of the Minnesota Association of Professional Employees;
- 3.7 (6) one member of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal
- 3.8 Employees;
- 3.9 (7) one member of the Minnesota State University Administrative and Service
- 3.10 Faculty;
- 3.11 (8) one member of the Minnesota State University Student Association;
- 3.12 (9) one member of the Minnesota State College Student Association;
- 3.13 (10) one member representing campus bookstore staff; and
- 3.14 (11) one member representing the Leadership Council.
- 3.15 The members must select two cochairs. One of the cochairs must be a student.
- 3.16 Subd. 3. **Report and recommendations.** The task force must report its findings
- 3.17 and recommendations to the board. By January 15, 2013, the board must report to the
- 3.18 legislature on the work of the task force, including any recommendations for legislation.