

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FIRST SESSION

S.F. No. 3123

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| DATE | D-PG | OFFICIAL STATUS |
|------------|-------|---|
| 02/13/2020 | 4754 | Introduction and first reading |
| | | Referred to Family Care and Aging |
| 03/12/2020 | 5445a | Comm report: To pass as amended and re-refer to Energy and Utilities Finance and Policy |

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to energy; establishing a nursing home energy efficiency grant program;

1.3 appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter

1.4 216C.

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

1.6 Section 1. 216C.45 ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANTS FOR NURSING HOMES.

1.7 Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have

1.8 the meanings given.

1.9 (b) "Energy conservation improvements" means a project that results in energy efficiency

1.10 or energy conservation, as provided in section 216B.241, subdivision 1e.

1.11 (c) "Nursing home" has the meaning given under section 144A.01, subdivision 5.

1.12 Subd. 2. Establishment. A grant program is established under the Department of

1.13 Commerce to award grants to nursing homes to install energy conservation improvements.

1.14 Subd. 3. Interagency coordination. When developing and administering this program,

1.15 the commissioner must coordinate with the commissioner of human services and other

1.16 public agencies as appropriate.

1.17 Subd. 4. Eligible expenditures. Grants awarded to a nursing home under this section

1.18 may be used to fund the costs to design, engineer, procure, and install energy conservation

1.19 improvements. A grant must not exceed \$500,000 per nursing home. The commissioner

1.20 must attempt to award grants that are paired with utility energy efficiency programs described

1.21 in section 216B.241, subdivision 1f.

2.1 Subd. 5. **Application process.** (a) The department must establish a competitive
2.2 application and review process to select grants. Grants must be selected on the basis of
2.3 several criteria, including but not limited to:

2.4 (1) a reduction in energy usage and customer bills;

2.5 (2) a needs-based assessment on the long-term viability of the nursing home, including
2.6 whether the nursing home's reported spending on utilities per licensed bed is higher than
2.7 average for similar nursing homes;

2.8 (3) project readiness;

2.9 (4) innovation, transferability, and collaboration;

2.10 (5) positive impacts on the community;

2.11 (6) a reduction in fossil fuel emissions;

2.12 (7) job creation; and

2.13 (8) the long-term retention of existing living-wage jobs in the nursing home.

2.14 (b) A nursing home must submit an application to the commissioner on a form prescribed
2.15 by the commissioner. The commissioner must develop administrative procedures governing
2.16 the application, review, and grant award process.

2.17 Subd. 6. **Reporting.** The commissioner must submit a report by September 1, 2022, to
2.18 the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives
2.19 committees with jurisdiction over energy. The report must detail how the money was spent
2.20 and the results that were achieved. The report must include, at a minimum, information and
2.21 data regarding the number of participants, the types of projects completed, achieved energy
2.22 reductions, and estimated customer bill savings.

2.23 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.24 \$..... in fiscal year 2021 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of
2.25 commerce for nursing home energy efficiency grants under Minnesota Statutes, section
2.26 216C.45. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2022. The
2.27 commissioner may use up to five percent of this amount to administer the program. Any
2.28 unexpended funds remaining after June 30, 2022, cancel to the general fund.