

CHAPTER 179

LABOR RELATIONS

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179.81 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** For the purposes of sections 179.81 to 179.85, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. **Area labor-management committee.** "Area labor-management committee" or "committee" means a committee formed by and composed of multiple employers and multiple labor organizations, for the purpose of improving labor-management relations and enhancing economic development within the jurisdiction through labor-management cooperation.

Subd. 3. **Bureau.** "Bureau" means the bureau of mediation services.

Subd. 4. **Director.** "Director" means the director of the bureau of mediation services.

History: *1Sp1985 c 13 s 282*

179.82 GRANT PROGRAM CREATED; APPLICATIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Creation.** An area labor-management committee grant program is created within the bureau to be administered by the director.

Subd. 2. **Applications.** (a) Applications for area labor-management committee grants must be submitted to the bureau by October 15 of each year on a form developed by the director.

(b) The application must include a description of the area labor-management committee formed or to be formed consistent with the purposes of the area labor-management grant program, including an identification of the committee members and a brief description of the committee's existing or proposed operating procedures. A copy of the committee bylaws or other written operating procedures must be submitted.

(c) The application must include a statement of the labor-management problem or issue existing in the committee's area of jurisdiction. Grant applicants must document the problem using as much relevant data as is reasonably available, and must discuss the full range of impacts that the problem or issue is having upon the area or upon industry within the area.

(d) The application must include a statement of the approach to be used by the committee in solving the problem or dealing with the issue identified in paragraph (c) and an implementation plan setting forth the major steps to be taken and objectives sought in dealing with the problem or issue identified in paragraph (c), as well as a time table indicating when those steps will be taken and those objectives reached.

(e) The application must include a four-year financial plan detailing the amount of both state grant money and local, federal, and private sector money necessary for the applicant's program. The plan must show the total amount of state funding necessary to carry out the committee's goals and objectives, and the total money from other sources expected to be raised each year. The plan must be accompanied

by a proposed committee budget, covering the life of the plan, detailing how all money, including state grant money, is to be expended.

History: *1Sp1985 c 13 s 283*

179.83 ACTION ON APPLICATION.

Subdivision 1. **Standard for approval.** After October 15 of each year, the director shall review the applications. Grants must be awarded on a competitive basis based on the appropriateness of the proposal, the attainability of the goals, the evidence of interest in the proposal among representatives of labor and management in the area within the committee's jurisdiction, and the thoroughness of the financial plan presented. Successful applicants shall be notified of the award no later than December 1 of each year.

Subd. 2. **Number of grants awarded.** On the basis of the review conducted under subdivision 1, the director may award no more than three grants in each of the two years following the effective date of sections 179.81 to 179.85, provided that not more than five grants are awarded in the biennium following July 1, 1985.

History: *1Sp1985 c 13 s 284*

179.84 GENERAL CONDITIONS AND TERMS OF GRANTS.

Subdivision 1. **Requirements.** For each grant awarded the director shall:

(1) require an approved work plan that establishes measurable goals and objectives for the committee within the committee's area of responsibility and that prohibits the committee from becoming involved in contract disputes, labor negotiations, or grievance procedures;

(2) establish a technical assistance delivery area outside the geographic area covered by the area labor-management committee;

(3) require the area labor-management committee to establish an approved technical assistance work plan for its external technical assistance delivery area; and

(4) annually review the operating performance of each area labor-management committee receiving state money under this program.

Subd. 2. **Work plans.** Regular work plans for each area labor-management committee must be directed toward improving labor-management relations within the area serviced by the committee. Technical assistance work plans must provide for the establishment of new area labor-management committees within the committee's technical assistance delivery area. Both types of work plans must provide for the following:

(1) information, resources, and materials on ways in which labor and management can work cooperatively to improve productivity and the quality of working life;

(2) educational programs such as seminars, workshops, and conferences on ways in which labor and management can work cooperatively to improve productivity and the quality of work life;

(3) technical assistance to individuals, groups of firms, unions, and governmental units that are interested in developing labor management committees; and

(4) promotion, support, and assistance in the organization, establishment, and operation of local or regional area labor-management committees.

History: *1Sp1985 c 13 s 285*

179.85 FUNDING LIMITATIONS.

A new or existing area labor-management committee may apply for a maximum grant of \$100,000 per year. A new or existing area labor-management committee may be awarded state grant money, and must provide money from other nonstate sources, in each of the four years covered by the financial plan in the following ratio of state and nonstate money: in the first year, 90 percent state and 10 percent nonstate; in the second year, 80 percent state and 20 percent nonstate; in the third year, 50 percent state and 50 percent nonstate; and in the fourth year, 30 percent state and 70 percent nonstate. In a grant to an existing or proposed area labor-management committee, \$10,000 of the grant is designated and may only be used for technical assistance services within the technical assistance delivery area, both as specified by the director under section 179.84.

History: *1Sp1985 c 13 s 286*