

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 2798

DATE: April 5, 2006

Version: As introduced

Authors: Heidgerken

Subject: Clear English pronunciation in instruction

Analyst: Kathy Novak, 651-296-9253

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

This bill requires the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities to adopt a written policy that requires clear English pronunciation as a condition to teach undergraduates. The policy must:

- require an oral interview prior to hiring or assigning an instructor for undergraduates and documentation that the individual has clear English speech;
- provide reimbursement for course costs for any student that notifies the institution that an instructor does not speak clear English in a class in which the student is enrolled; and
- require reassignment to a nonteaching position for any instructor if the institution receives written notice of unclear English speech from ten percent or more of the students in the instructor's class, subject to review by a panel that includes at least one representative of student government.

The Board of Regents is asked to adopt a similar policy for instructors of undergraduates at the University of Minnesota.