

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Subject:** University of Minnesota, Rochester

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### Overview

This bill authorizes the University of Minnesota to establish a branch of the University in Rochester, Minnesota to expand educational offerings to meet educational and economic development needs of the region and appropriates \$5 million to the University for this purpose.

#### Section

- 1**     **Establish.** Changes the University's authority to establish a campus in Rochester from a nonresidential joint campus with MnSCU to a branch campus. The purpose is to expand higher education offerings, in part, through partnerships with other higher education institutions.
- 2**     **Mission.** Specifies that the legislature intends for the mission of expanded education offerings in Rochester is to correspond with the University's mission of teaching, research and outreach for economic development and educational needs of the region and Minnesota. It recognizes that to meet the success depends on maintaining distinct higher education institutions in the area and repeals the requirement that the various postsecondary institutions avoid duplication and develop a joint statement of missions and roles.
- 3**     **Appropriations.** Appropriates \$5 million from the general fund to the Board of Regents for fiscal year 2007 to establish a branch campus in Rochester. The additional appropriation is for academic programs, including planning and development of specified academic areas, industrial liaison costs, and operation of leased facilities.
- 4**     **Repealer.** Repeals Minnesota Statutes, section 137.17, subdivisions 2 and 4, which describe the legislative intent for the current Rochester campus and the requirement for partner

**Section**

institutions to consult with each other in making changes to their individual missions.