**Overview**

This bill makes a variety of changes to the law governing bid-preferences available to veteran-owned small businesses and appropriates $100,000 to develop and fund a certification program for veteran-owned small businesses.

**Section**

1. **Veteran-owned small businesses.** Specifies that the commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs must verify that a business is owned by a veteran prior to the commissioner of administration certifying the business as a veteran-owned small business.

2. **Eligibility rules.** Modifies the criteria that the Department of Administration must follow in certifying Minnesota veteran-owned small businesses. Specifies that all veterans, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 197.447, who own small businesses are eligible to receive bid preferences.

3. **Definitions.** Defines the term “state funds” for purposes of the veteran-owned small business contracting statute.

4. **Policy; purpose; director.** Requires county boards to establish a bid-preference program for veteran-owned businesses for capital projects that use state funds.

5. **Veteran preference.** Directs cities to award veteran-owned small businesses a six percent preference in public infrastructure projects.

6. **Veteran-owned small business contracts.** Directs local units of government to implement a bid-preference program for veteran-owned businesses for capital projects that use state funds.
Section

7 Veteran-owned small business certification; appropriation. Appropriates $100,000 to the commissioner of administration to develop and fund a certification program for veteran-owned small businesses.