

H.F. 479

As introduced

Subject Domestic violence and sexual assault prevention program

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Overview

This bill directs the commissioner of health to distribute grants for domestic violence and sexual assault prevention activities, and appropriates money for this program.

Summary

Section Description

1 Domestic violence and sexual assault prevention program.

Adds § 145.987. Directs the commissioner of health to award grants to nonprofit organizations for domestic violence and sexual assault prevention activities.

- **Subd. 1. Program establishment.** Directs the commissioner of health to administer a domestic violence and sexual assault prevention program.
- **Subd. 2. Grant criteria.** Directs the commissioner to award grants to nonprofit organizations to develop new programs or sustain or expand existing programs, to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault. Lists activities that may be funded with these grants.
- **Subd. 3. Definition.** Defines domestic violence and sexual assault to include intimate partner violence, sex trafficking, domestic abuse, criminal sexual conduct crimes, abusive international marriage, and forced marriage.
- **Subd. 4. Promotion; administration.** Allows the commissioner to spend up to 15% of program funding each fiscal year to promote and administer the program.
- **Subd. 5. Nonstate sources.** Allows the commissioner to accept contributions from nonstate sources, and appropriates those contributions to the commissioner for this program.
- **Subd. 6. Program evaluation.** Requires the commissioner to report by February 28 of each even-numbered year to the legislative committees governing health, on grants made under this section. Directs the commissioner to evaluate the effectiveness of the program, and to use the evaluation information to inform existing and proposed department policies and programs. Requires an

Section Description

organization receiving a grant to make available to MDH aggregate data on activities funded by the grant.

2 Appropriation; domestic violence and sexual assault prevention program.

Appropriates \$2.5 million each fiscal year from the general fund to the commissioner of health for grants through the domestic violence and sexual assault prevention program.



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