Overview

This bill appropriates money for a nursing science program at St. Cloud State University.

1 **Legislative findings.** Recognizes that the health care sector is growing in importance in the central Minnesota region and that improved access to additional educational opportunities in nursing will meet the health and employment needs of the central region. Recognizes that a nursing science program at St. Cloud State University that offers professional training in nursing will help meet both the need for higher paying employment opportunities for rural families and the region's growing demand for health care professionals.

2 **Appropriations.** Makes an unspecified appropriation in fiscal year 2001 from the general fund to MnSCU to establish a nursing science program at St. Cloud State University. Requires the program to provide professional training in nursing with a broad-base liberal arts education. Requires the program to provide an accelerated option for students with a baccalaureate degree in an area other than nursing. Requires the program to include options for licensed practical nurses and associate degree registered nurses to complete coursework and clinical programs to earn a bachelor of science in nursing.