

S.F. No. 4091 – Omnibus Jobs and Economic Growth Policy and Finance (1st Engrossment)

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Article 1 – Appropriations

Sections 1 and 2 appropriates money to the Department of Labor and Industry for:

- a study on the adequacy of current benefits available to disabled or injured police officers, firefighters, and state troopers (\$175,000 from the general fund in FY2023); and
- a grant for equine experiential mental health therapy to first responders suffering from job-related trauma and post-traumatic stress disorder (\$50,000 from the workforce development fund in FY2023).

Section 3 strikes language from 2021 session law for the Bureau of Mediation Services specifying that certain amounts be used for grants to labor management committees.

Section 4 allows recipients of grants from the Minnesota investment fund or job creation fund that were unable to meet the requirements of a business subsidy agreement during the COVID-19 peacetime emergency or the 12 months following it, an extension until December 31, 2023, to meet those requirements before the grant must be repaid. This section is effective retroactively from March 15, 2020.

Article 2 – DEED Policy

Section 1 (S.F. 210, Draheim) requires the commissioner of employment and economic development to give priority to programs or organizations that focus job training in high-wage, high-demand careers when awarding competitive grants to providers of job training programs.

Section 2 (S.F. 4091, as modified, Pratt) allows the commissioner to transfer a portion of the allowable administrative expenses for the community energy transition grant program to the Environmental Quality Board to assist communities with regulatory coordination and technical assistance. Clarifies the purposes for which grant funds awarded to a community may be used.

Section 3 (S.F. 4091, Pratt) adds “federally recognized tribe” to the definition of “municipality” for the purposes of contamination cleanup development grants.

Sections 4 to 6 (S.F. 4091, as modified, Pratt) modify the pay-for-performance grants statute. Removes the specified dollar amount that may be made for income supplements to participants and replaces that with a reference to “support services” without a specified dollar amount. Limits programs to one placement and one retention payment for a qualified graduate per program. Clarifies that programs must provide the commissioner with program graduate records and information upon request.

Section 7 (S.F. 4091, Pratt) specifies that federal loan funds provided through Department of the Treasury are excluded from business subsidy requirements.

Section 8 (S.F. 4091, Pratt) clarifies that tribal-owned businesses and municipal and county hospitals are eligible participants for Pathways projects.

Section 9 (S.F. 4091, Pratt) makes a grammatical change to the definition of “homemaker” in the dislocated worker statute.

Section 10 (S.F. 211, Draheim) requires nonprofit organizations that are recipients of grants or direct appropriations to provide information regarding revenue, expenses, and compensation of employees to the Department of Employment and Economic Development.

Sections 11 and 12 (S.F. 4091, as modified, Pratt) modifies the definition of credential by removing the exclusion of certificates awarded by a workforce investment board. Adds a requirement to the uniform outcome report card report that the commissioner must provide to the legislature to include a list of those grant recipients that did not satisfy reporting requirements.

Sections 13 and 14 (S.F. 919, Pratt) modifies requirements for the notice that must be provided to employees at the beginning of employment and caps the penalty amount at 20 days for unpaid wages and unpaid commissions.

Section 15 requires the commissioner of employment and economic development to provide an annual report to the legislature regarding unemployment insurance overpayments.

Section 16 (S.F. 1516, Draheim) specifies the percentages of workforce development grants to pass-through entities that must be pay-for-performance grants at 25% in fiscal year 2024 and at 50% in fiscal year 2025.