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S.F. No. 3818 – Establishing youth skill path program (as proposed to be amended by the A-1 delete all amendment)

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Subdivision 1 establishes the skills path program for high school students or individuals who have received a high school equivalency diploma to provide a clear pathway from high school to careers in skilled work and trades. This program creates opportunities for students to enter postsecondary programs and employment-based training in high school.

Subdivision 2 defines terms for purposes of the skills path program.

Subdivision 3 defines eligible institutions as a public school, an American Indian-controlled tribal contract or grant school, or nonpublic school. This subdivision allows postsecondary institutions to partner with eligible institutions and allows eligible institutions to work with the postsecondary schools to create two-year programs in skilled occupations.

Subdivision 4 requires the commissioner of higher education (OHE) to develop an application process in consultation with the commissioners of education and labor and industry.

Subdivisions 5 and 6 are under the jurisdiction of the education finance and policy committee.

Subdivision 7 requires the commissioner of OHE to award grants up to \$50,000 to eight eligible institutions. This subdivision specifies the activities for which the grant funds may be used and lists what must be included in the grant application.

Subdivision 8 allows an eligible student to apply to OHE to receive reimbursement for tuition, books, required tools, and other approved expenses required for participation in the program.

Section 2 appropriates \$400,000 to the commissioner of OHE to administer the grants under section 1, and appropriates \$100,000 for the scholarships under section 1, subdivision 8. Both appropriations are ongoing.