

1.1 **Senator Pratt from the Committee on Jobs and Economic Growth Finance and**  
 1.2 **Policy, to which was referred**

1.3 **S.F. No. 3624:** A bill for an act relating to economic development; appropriating money  
 1.4 for a grant to the Owatonna Learn to Earn Coalition to help the Owatonna and Steele County  
 1.5 region grow and retain a talented workforce.

1.6 Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

1.7 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.8 "Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND**  
 1.9 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; OWATONNA LEARN TO EARN COALITION.**

1.10 \$20,000 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner  
 1.11 of employment and economic development for a grant to the Owatonna Learn to Earn  
 1.12 Coalition to conduct a comprehensive local needs assessment to examine current and future  
 1.13 workforce needs in the region. The coalition shall retain a consultant and utilize state  
 1.14 demographer resources to involve education, business, and community stakeholders to guide  
 1.15 the high school's career pathways, the college's programs of study, and the business's support  
 1.16 of work-based learning programs that help them recruit, develop, and retain a vibrant  
 1.17 workforce to keep the regional economy strong. This is a onetime appropriation and is  
 1.18 available until June 30, 2024.

1.19 **Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION; OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION; OWATONNA**  
 1.20 **LEARN TO EARN COALITION.**

1.21 \$980,000 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner  
 1.22 of higher education for a grant to the Owatonna Learn to Earn Coalition to help the Owatonna  
 1.23 and Steele County region grow and retain a talented workforce. This is a onetime  
 1.24 appropriation and is available until June 30, 2024. Of this amount:

1.25 (1) \$900,000 is to develop educational learning spaces with state-of-the-art equipment  
 1.26 and student support services in high-demand career pathway programs. Of this amount,  
 1.27 \$306,000 is to equip the new Owatonna High School's Industrial Technology classrooms  
 1.28 with state-of-the-art equipment to introduce students to high-skill, high-wage, technical  
 1.29 careers, and \$594,000 is to equip the Owatonna Riverland Community College Campus  
 1.30 with state-of-the-art instructional equipment to offer credit and noncredit technical programs  
 1.31 in automation robotics engineering technology and information technology; and

1.32 (2) \$80,000 is to create learn to earn opportunities for students and employers by engaging  
 1.33 employers in the Owatonna community to offer tuition reimbursement or scholarships and

2.1 part-time work and school schedules to employees who agree to continue their education while working for them.

2.2 Amend the title as follows:

2.3 Page 1, line 2, delete "a grant" and insert "grants"

2.4 And when so amended the bill do pass and be re-referred to the Committee on Higher Education Finance and Policy. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

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(Committee Chair)

2.7 March 23, 2022.....  
2.8 (Date of Committee recommendation)