

S.F. No. 1011 – Certain policy changes provision to postsecondary attainment goals, student financial aid, institutional licensure provisions, and institutional grant programs; as proposed to be amended by the A-2 amendment

Author: Senator Omar Fateh

Prepared by: Joan White, Senate Counsel (651/296-3814)

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Section 1 (135A.012) amends the statute establishing the higher education attainment goal, which is that 70% of Minnesota residents ages 25-44 will hold a postsecondary degree by 2025. This section expands the degrees that can be counted towards that goal to include industry-recognized credentials.

Section 2 (136A.121, subd 2) amends the state grant program eligibility. A person who has been convicted of or plead guilty to a crime involving fraud in obtaining federal postsecondary student assistance is not eligible for the state grant.

Section 3 (136A.121, subd 18) amends the state grant program to clarify that the institutions that have the responsibility to provide certain data to the Office of Higher Education are those institutions whose students are eligible for state grants, scholarships, and student loans.

Section 4 amends the fostering independence higher education grants, which are grants for students who were or are in foster care. This section changes the date the notice is required for an institution to opt out of participating in the program and adds language that requires an institution that opts out to hold the student harmless and provide the benefit as long as the student remains eligible. This section also clarifies how long a student may receive a grant.

Section 5 (136A.1701, subd 11) amends the SELF refi section of law to clarify that the institutions that have the responsibility to provide certain data to the Office of Higher Education are those institutions whose students are eligible for student loan programs and are institutions that are licensed or registered.

Section 6, 7 and 8 (136A.62, subd 3, 136A.62, subd 3a, 136A.653, subd 1b) provide that tribal colleges, as defined in Section 7, are exempt from the requirements imposed on Minnesota private

and out-of-state public postsecondary institutions. The amendment clarifies that tribal colleges may voluntarily waive their exception by registering, which makes the tribal colleges eligible for the state grant and other state financial aid under chapter 136A.

Section 9 (136A.833) modifies subdivision 1 by adding clarifying language and changing a cross reference related to the appeal of a denied exemption. Subdivision 2 adds and clarifies the types of schools and programs that are exempt from the requirements imposed on private career schools.

Section 10 (136A.91, subd 1) amends concurrent enrollment grant awards for schools that are expanding concurrent enrollment. To receive an award under this section, the school is required to support the preparation, recruitment, and success of students who are underrepresented in concurrent enrollment classrooms and:

- 1) create new sections within the same high school, or
- 2) offer the existing course in a new high school.

Section 11 repeals obsolete rules.