SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-THIRD SESSION

S.F. No. 4416

1.1

A bill for an act

1.2 relating to higher education; establishing academic freedom protections for
1.3 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities faculty; creating an artificial intelligence
1.4 working group; requiring a report; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota
1.5 Statutes, chapter 136F.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. **[136F.405] ACADEMIC FREEDOM PROTECTION.**

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following term has the

1.9 meaning given.

1.10 (b) "Academic freedom" means the freedom of an educator or researcher in higher

1.11 education to investigate and discuss the issues in their academic field, and to teach or publish

1.12 findings without interference from political figures, boards of trustees, donors, or other

1.13 entities.

1.14 Subd. 2. **Faculty rights.** (a) Minnesota State Colleges and Universities must maintain

1.15 policies that support and encourage academic freedom. A faculty member at a Minnesota

1.16 state institution may, without limitation, discuss the subject matter in the classroom of the

1.17 courses the faculty member is assigned to teach without interference from political figures,

2.1 (c) A Minnesota state institution shall not discriminate against a faculty member for

2.2 engaging in political activities or holding or voicing political views, so long as the exercise

2.3 of this right does not interfere with the faculty member's job responsibilities as a faculty

2.4 member.

2.5 Subd. 3. **Artificial intelligence regulation.** (a) Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

2.6 institutions may not use artificial or generative intelligence as the primary instructor for a

2.7 credit-bearing course. Credit-bearing courses must be taught by an instructor of record who

2.8 is a living human being employed by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

2.9 (b) Minnesota State Colleges and Universities institutions may not use artificial or

2.10 generative intelligence to provide library services, counseling and crisis intervention services,

2.11 athletic coaching, and training. Library services, counseling services, athletic coaching, and

2.12 training must be provided by a faculty member of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

2.13 who is a living human employed by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

2.14 (c) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b), faculty retain the right to use artificial or

2.15 generative intelligence as part of their teaching and other work duties.

2.16 (d) When artificial or generative intelligence is used by faculty or staff of a Minnesota

2.17 State Colleges and Universities institution, it must be cited and made clear to students as

2.18 being developed using artificial or generative intelligence.

2.19 Sec. 2. **MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ARTIFICIAL**

2.20 **INTELLIGENT WORKGROUP.**

2.21 The Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities shall convene

2.22 a work group to develop policies and procedures for the safe and ethical use of artificial

2.23 intelligence. The board must submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority members

2.24 of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over higher education by May 1, 2025. The

2.25 work group must include representatives from:

2.26 (1) the Minnesota State University Student Association;

2.27 (2) the Minnesota State College Student Association;

3.1　　　(7) others as deemed necessary by the workgroup.