

This Document can be made available in alternative formats upon request

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 1708

03/01/2021 Authored by Wolgamott
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Higher Education Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to higher education; expanding the hunger-free campus designation;
1.3 appropriating money; repealing expiration; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020,
1.4 section 136F.245, subdivisions 1, 2; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota
1.5 Statutes, chapter 137; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 136F.245,
1.6 subdivision 3.

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

1.8 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 136F.245, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.9 Subdivision 1. Establishment. A Hunger-Free Campus designation for Minnesota State
1.10 community and technical colleges and universities is established. In order to be awarded
1.11 the designation, a campus must meet the following minimum criteria:

1.12 (1) have an established on-campus food pantry or partnership with a local food bank to
1.13 provide regular, on-campus food distributions;

1.14 (2) provide information to students on SNAP, MFIP, and other programs that reduce
1.15 food insecurity;

1.16 (3) hold or participate in one hunger awareness event per academic year;

1.17 (4) have an established emergency assistance grant that is available to students; and

1.18 (5) establish a hunger task force that meets a minimum of three times per academic year.

1.19 The task force must include at least two students currently enrolled at the college or
1.20 university.

2.1 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 136F.245, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

2.2 Subd. 2. **Designation approval.** The statewide student ~~association~~ associations
 2.3 representing the community and technical colleges and the universities shall create an
 2.4 application process and a ~~nonmonetary~~ an award, and provide final approval for the
 2.5 designation at each college and university, respectively.

2.6 Sec. 3. **[137.375] HUNGER-FREE CAMPUS DESIGNATION.**

2.7 Subdivision 1. Establishment. A Hunger-Free Campus designation is established for
 2.8 the University of Minnesota. In order to be awarded the designation, a campus must meet
 2.9 the following minimum criteria:

2.10 (1) have an established on-campus food pantry or partnership with a local food bank to
 2.11 provide regular, on-campus food distributions;

2.12 (2) provide information to students on SNAP, MFIP, and other programs that reduce
 2.13 food insecurity;

2.14 (3) hold or participate in one hunger awareness event per academic year;

2.15 (4) have an established emergency assistance grant that is available to students; and

2.16 (5) establish a hunger task force that meets a minimum of three times per academic year.
 2.17 The task force must include at least two students currently enrolled at the university.

2.18 Subd. 2. Designation approval. The University of Minnesota statewide student
 2.19 association shall create an application process and an award, and provide final approval for
 2.20 the designation at each university.

2.21 Sec. 4. **APPROPRIATION FOR HUNGER-FREE CAMPUS GRANTS.**

2.22 (a) \$..... in fiscal year 2022 and \$..... in fiscal year 2023 are appropriated from the
 2.23 general fund to the Office of Higher Education to provide grants for campuses to meet and
 2.24 maintain the criteria in Minnesota Statutes, sections 136F.245 and 137.375, to address food
 2.25 insecurity on campus.

2.26 (b) Awards must be based on head count for the most recently completed academic year.
 2.27 The maximum grant award shall be \$.....

2.28 (c) Campuses must provide matching funds to receive the hunger-free campus grant.

2.29 (d) The commissioner of the Office of Higher Education may transfer unencumbered
 2.30 balances from the appropriations in this section to the emergency assistance for postsecondary

3.1 students grant. Transfers from this appropriation may only be made to the extent there is a
3.2 projected surplus in the appropriation. A transfer may be made only with prior written notice
3.3 to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives
3.4 committees with jurisdiction over higher education finance.

3.5 (e) The statewide student associations representing the community and technical colleges
3.6 and the universities shall review all grant applications and provide final approval of all grant
3.7 disbursements from the Office of Higher Education to colleges and universities, respectively.

3.8 Sec. 5. **REPEALER.**

3.9 Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 136F.245, subdivision 3, is repealed.

APPENDIX
Repealed Minnesota Statutes: 21-02046

136F.245 HUNGER-FREE CAMPUS DESIGNATION.

Subd. 3. **Expiration.** This section expires July 1, 2023.