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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 2465

04/06/2021

Authored by Lee

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on State Government Finance and Elections

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to arts; modifying membership of Minnesota State Arts Board;  
1.3 appropriating money for American descendants of slavery; amending Minnesota  
1.4 Statutes 2020, section 129D.02, subdivision 1.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 129D.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Membership.** The Board of the Arts ~~shall consist~~ consists of 11 members  
1.8 to be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. One member  
1.9 ~~shall~~ must be appointed from each of the congressional districts, and the remaining members  
1.10 ~~shall~~ must be appointed at large. Persons appointed to the board ~~shall~~ must have demonstrated  
1.11 experience or interest in the arts, and no less than three of the members serving at any time  
1.12 must be American descendants of slavery. No member shall within two years prior to  
1.13 appointment have received or applied for, in the member's name, a grant, loan or other form  
1.14 of assistance from the board or its predecessor, the State Arts Council. No more than four  
1.15 of the members shall during their terms of office be officers, directors or employees of  
1.16 recipient sponsoring organizations. The board members ~~shall~~ must annually select from  
1.17 their membership a chair and other officers as they deem necessary. For the purposes of  
1.18 this section, "American descendants of slavery" means people who are descended from  
1.19 Africans who were enslaved specifically in the United States from the colonial period  
1.20 onward.

1.21 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION; ARTS FUNDING FOR DESCENDANTS OF SLAVERY.**

1.22 \$8,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$8,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 are appropriated from  
1.23 the arts and cultural heritage fund to the Minnesota State Arts Board for grants to

2.1 organizations and individuals who are American descendants of slavery. For the purposes  
2.2 of this section, "American descendants of slavery" means people who are descended from  
2.3 Africans who were enslaved specifically in the United States from the colonial period  
2.4 onward. The arts board must develop criteria for determining eligible grantees in consultation  
2.5 with members of the community who are experts in the African slave experience and with  
2.6 the Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage.