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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 3475

02/12/2024 Authored by Mueller
The bill was referred to the Committee on Workforce Development Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to job training; appropriating money to develop training for water operators
1.3 and wastewater operators.

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

1.5 Section 1. APPROPRIATION; TRAINING FOR WATER OPERATORS AND
1.6 WASTEWATER OPERATORS.

1.7 \$350,000 in fiscal year 2025 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner
1.8 of employment and economic development for a grant to the city of Austin to develop and
1.9 implement training programs for water operators and for wastewater operators. The training
1.10 programs are to be offered by Riverland Community College. This is a onetime appropriation
1.11 and is available until June 30, 2027. Any unencumbered balance at the end of fiscal year
1.12 2026 may be used for any purpose described in this section. Of this amount:

1.13 (1) \$100,000 is to develop:

1.14 (i) a training program for water supply system operators with a curriculum that relates
1.15 to the Department of Health's certification levels for water supply system operators; and

1.16 (ii) a training program for wastewater treatment facility operators with a curriculum that
1.17 relates to the Pollution Control Agency's certification levels for wastewater treatment facility
1.18 operators;

1.19 (2) \$100,000 is for personnel at the Riverland Customized Training and Education
1.20 division at Riverland Community College campuses to recruit program designers, assist in
1.21 curriculum development, recruit students and instructors, work with other Riverland

2.1 Community College departments, and collaborate with external partners to support the new
2.2 programs;

2.3 (3) \$65,000 is to develop program marketing, including marketing outreach, and to
2.4 distribute marketing material;

2.5 (4) \$35,000 is for administrative and overhead costs for Riverland Community College
2.6 to create and administer the water operator and wastewater operator training programs;

2.7 (5) \$35,000 is for equipment for students and instructors at Riverland Community College
2.8 to use in training program classes; and

2.9 (6) \$15,000 is for the city's expenses to administer the grant under this section.