

**SENATE**  
**STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
**NINETY-SECOND SESSION**

**S.F. No. 41**

(SENATE AUTHORS: DRAHEIM, Jasinski and Tomassoni)

DATE  
01/11/2021

D-PG

Introduction and first reading  
 Referred to Higher Education Finance and Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
 1.2 relating to higher education; requiring Minnesota State Colleges and Universities  
 1.3 to provide affordable textbooks for a percentage of courses; requiring a report;  
 1.4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 136F.58, subdivision 2a; proposing  
 1.5 coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 136F.

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

1.7 Section 1. **[136F.29] AFFORDABLE TEXTBOOKS.**

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have  
 1.9 the meanings given.

1.10 (b) "Affordable textbook" means any textbook that costs \$40 or less, including traditional  
 1.11 textbooks, open educational resources, open textbooks, or other educational resources  
 1.12 intended to be used in place of a traditional textbook.

1.13 (c) "Course" means a single unit of teaching in one subject area led by one or more  
 1.14 instructors, with a definite start and end date and a fixed roster of students.

1.15 Subd. 2. **Affordable textbook policy.** By August 31, 2022, 15 percent of all courses  
 1.16 offered at state colleges and universities must use affordable textbooks.

1.17 Subd. 3. **Report required.** (a) Beginning in 2021, the board must submit an annual  
 1.18 report by January 15 to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees  
 1.19 with jurisdiction over higher education. The report must include the following:

1.20 (1) the percentage and number of courses using traditional textbooks under \$40;

1.21 (2) the percentage and number of courses using open textbooks;

1.22 (3) the percentage and number of courses using open educational resources;

2.1 (4) the percentage and number of developmental education courses using affordable  
2.2 textbooks; and

2.3 (5) the average total textbook cost.

2.4 (b) The report must disaggregate data for each individual college and university by  
2.5 academic program.

2.6 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 136F.58, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

2.7 Subd. 2a. **Course schedule and material list.** (a) Each state college and university shall  
2.8 compile a course schedule indicating each course offered by the state college or university  
2.9 for each term and shall include with the course schedule a list of the required and  
2.10 recommended course materials that specifies, ~~to the extent practicable,~~ the information  
2.11 required in subdivision 3, paragraph (c).

2.12 (b) At the time required by subdivision 3, paragraph (c), a state college or university  
2.13 shall publish course schedules and course material lists on the state college's or university's  
2.14 website.