

2019 Minnesota Senate File No. 2706, Minnesota First Regular Session of the Ninety-First Legislative Session

MINNESOTA BILL TEXT

TITLE: Hunger Free Campus Act; hunger free campus designation requirements; campus food shelves at all Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) campuses; appropriation

VERSION: Introduced

March 27, 2019

Lang, Jensen, Clausen



[Image 1 within document in PDF format.](#)

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TEXT:

SENATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA

NINETY-FIRST SESSION S.F. No. 2706

(SENATE AUTHORS: LANG, Jensen and Clausen)

DATE D-PG OFFICIAL STATUS 03/27/2019 Introduction and first reading Referred to Higher Education Finance and Policy

A bill for an act

relating to higher education; establishing Hunger Free Campus Act, Hunger Free Campus designation requirements; requiring campus food shelves at all Minnesota State community and technical colleges; appropriating money for Hunger Free Campus grants; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 136F.

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

Section 1. **[136F.245] HUNGER FREE CAMPUS DESIGNATION.**

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

- (1) have an established on-campus food pantry or partnership with a local food bank to provide regular, on-campus food distributions;**
- (2) provide information to students on SNAP, MFIP, and other programs that reduce food insecurity;**
- (3) hold or participate in one hunger awareness event per academic year;**
- (4) have an established emergency assistance grant that is available to students; and**

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

Subd. 2. Designation approval. The statewide student association representing the community and technical colleges shall create an application process and an award, and provide final approval for the designation at each college. Designations shall last three academic years and be reviewed by the statewide student association for renewal.

Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION FOR HUNGER FREE CAMPUS GRANTS.

(a) \$77,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$77,000 in fiscal year 2021 are appropriated from the general fund to the Office of Higher Education to provide grants for campuses to meet the criteria in Minnesota Statutes, section 136F.245, and to address food insecurity on campus. This is a onetime appropriation.

(b) Awards must be based on college head count for the most recently completed academic year. The maximum grant award shall be \$8,000.

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

(d) The commissioner of the Office of Higher Education may transfer unencumbered balances from the appropriations in this section to the emergency assistance for postsecondary students grant. Transfers from this appropriation may only be made to the extent there is a projected surplus in the appropriation. A transfer may be made only with prior written notice to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives committees with jurisdiction over higher education finance.

(e) The statewide student association representing the community and technical colleges shall develop an application, review all grant applications, and provide final approval of all grant disbursements from the Office of Higher Education.