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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 3331

02/14/2022 Authored by Novotny
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; establishing a grant program to reimburse education
1.3 expenses for peace officers; appropriating money.

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

1.5 Section 1. PEACE OFFICER EDUCATION REIMBURSEMENT.

1.6 (a) \$2,500,000 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the general fund to the Board of
1.7 Peace Officer Standards and Training to provide education reimbursement grants to eligible
1.8 peace officers. Of this amount, up to 3.5 percent is for administration and monitoring of the
1.9 program.

1.10 (b) An eligible peace officer is a person who:

1.11 (1) is a peace officer as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 626.84, subdivision 1,
1.12 paragraph (c);

1.13 (2) began employment as a peace officer on or after July 1, 2021;

1.14 (3) has been continuously employed as a peace officer for at least 12 months;

1.15 (4) has not been found to be in violation of the standards of conduct set forth in Minnesota
1.16 Rules, part 6700.1600; and

1.17 (5) paid tuition or other fees to a postsecondary school to participate in a professional
1.18 peace officer education program as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 626.84, subdivision
1.19 1, paragraph (g).

1.20 (c) An eligible peace officer may receive reimbursement equal to the amount paid in
1.21 tuition or other fees to a postsecondary school to participate in a professional peace officer

2.1 education program or \$5,000, whichever is less. An eligible peace officer may not receive
2.2 reimbursement for any amount paid by a third party or reimbursed by any other entity, or
2.3 any amount of a loan that was forgiven or is eligible to be forgiven from money borrowed
2.4 from a financial institution or other entity.

2.5 (d) The Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training shall establish the requirements
2.6 for an application for reimbursement of education expenses. At a minimum, the application
2.7 must include:

2.8 (1) the name, date of birth, and peace officer license number of the applicant;

2.9 (2) the postsecondary school to which tuition or other fees were paid and the amount
2.10 paid;

2.11 (3) the date of completion of a professional peace officer education program;

2.12 (4) the date on which the person began employment as a peace officer;

2.13 (5) certification by a chief law enforcement officer that the person is employed as a
2.14 peace officer at the time of application and has been employed as a peace officer for at least
2.15 the previous 12 months; and

2.16 (6) a statement signed by the applicant, under penalty of perjury as provided in Minnesota
2.17 Statutes, section 609.48, attesting that the applicant paid the tuition or fees being claimed;
2.18 the amount paid was not reimbursed by any other entity or through any other program; and
2.19 the applicant is not claiming reimbursement for any amount of a loan that was forgiven or
2.20 is eligible to be forgiven from money borrowed from a financial institution or other entity.

2.21 (e) The Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training shall prepare and make forms
2.22 available on its website for use by applicants and chief law enforcement officers.