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State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH  
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **342**

January 25, 2007

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety and Civil Justice

February 5, 2007

By motion, recalled and re-referred to the Committee on Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to corrections; authorizing a grant for mentoring children of incarcerated  
1.3 parents; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota  
1.4 Statutes, chapter 299A.

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

1.6 Section 1. **[299A.82] MENTORING GRANT FOR CHILDREN OF**  
1.7 **INCARCERATED PARENTS.**

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Mentoring grant.** The commissioner of public safety may award a  
1.9 grant to a nonprofit organization that is located in the greater Twin Cities area and provides  
1.10 one-to-one mentoring relationships to youth enrolled between the ages of seven to 13  
1.11 whose parent or other significant family member is incarcerated in a county workhouse,  
1.12 county jail, state prison, or other type of correctional facility or is subject to correctional  
1.13 supervision. The intent of the grant is to provide children with adult mentors to strengthen  
1.14 developmental outcomes, including enhanced self-confidence and esteem; improved  
1.15 academic performance; and improved relationships with peers, family, and other adults  
1.16 that may prevent them from entering the juvenile justice system.

1.17 Subd. 2. **Grant criteria.** As a condition of receiving the grant, the grant recipient  
1.18 must:

1.19 (1) collaborate with other organizations that have a demonstrated history of  
1.20 providing services to youth and families in disadvantaged situations;

1.21 (2) implement procedures to ensure that 100 percent of the mentors pose no safety  
1.22 risk to the child and have the skills to participate in a mentoring relationship;

1.23 (3) provide enhanced training to mentors focusing on asset building and family  
1.24 dynamics when a parent is incarcerated; and

2.1 (4) provide an individual family plan and aftercare.

2.2 Subd. 3. **Program evaluation.** The grant recipient must submit an evaluation plan  
2.3 to the commissioner delineating the program and student outcome goals and activities  
2.4 implemented to achieve the stated outcomes. The goals must be clearly stated and  
2.5 measurable. The grant recipient must collect, analyze, and report on participation and  
2.6 outcome data that enable the department to verify that the program goals were met.

2.7 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.8 \$500,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of corrections  
2.9 for the grant authorized in section 1, \$250,000 to be available for the fiscal year ending  
2.10 June 30, 2008, and \$250,000 to be available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009. This  
2.11 appropriation shall become part of the base budget.