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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **1904**

March 12, 2007

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to the judiciary; requiring a report to the legislature on community
1.3 dispute resolution programs; altering requirements for community dispute
1.4 resolution program grants and appropriating money for these grants; amending
1.5 Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 494.01, subdivision 4; 494.05.

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

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 494.01, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 4. **Reports.** The state court administrator shall compile statistical data
1.9 regarding community dispute resolution programs, including the operation budget, the
1.10 number of referrals, categories or types of cases referred, number of parties served,
1.11 number of disputes resolved, nature of resolution, amount and type of awards, rate of
1.12 compliance, returnees to the dispute resolution process, duration and estimated costs of
1.13 proceedings, and any other pertinent information. By February 1 of each odd-numbered
1.14 year, the state court administrator shall report to the legislature a summary of the data
1.15 compiled under this subdivision.

1.16 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 494.05, is amended to read:

1.17 **494.05 GRANTS.**

1.18 Subdivision 1. **Eligibility requirements.** A community dispute resolution program
1.19 is not eligible for a grant under this section unless it:

1.20 (1) complies with this chapter and the guidelines and rules adopted under this
1.21 chapter;

1.22 (2) is certified by the state court administrator under section 494.015, subdivision 2;

2.1 (3) demonstrates that at least one-half of its annual budget will be derived from
2.2 other sources ~~other than the state~~;

2.3 (4) documents evidence of support within its service area by community
2.4 organizations, administrative agencies, and judicial and legal system representatives; and

2.5 (5) is exempt or has applied for exemption from federal taxation under section
2.6 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or is administered and funded by a
2.7 city, county, or court system as a distinct, identifiable unit that has a separate and
2.8 distinguishable operating budget.

2.9 Subd. 2. **Funding.** Grants under this section must be used for the costs of operating
2.10 approved programs. A program is eligible to receive an amount of money equal to
2.11 one-half of its estimated annual budget, but not more than ~~\$25,000~~ \$50,000 a year.

2.12 Sec. 3. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.13 \$290,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, and \$290,000 for the fiscal
2.14 year ending June 30, 2009, are appropriated from the general fund to the state court
2.15 administrator for grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 494.05, for new and existing
2.16 programs.