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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**EIGHTY-SIXTH
SESSION**

HOUSE FILE No. 1048

February 23, 2009

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

March 12, 2009

Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:

To Pass and re-referred to the Higher Education and Workforce Development Finance and Policy Division

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

April 1, 2009

Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:

To Pass and re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to unemployment compensation; providing eligibility for benefits under
1.3 certain training programs.

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

1.5 Section 1. **UNEMPLOYED BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY; FEDERAL WIRED**
1.6 **PROGRAM.**

1.7 (a) Minnesota has been awarded a grant by the United States Department of Labor
1.8 under the Workforce Investment in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) program
1.9 for training to enhance the skills of employees working at regional businesses. The grant
1.10 provides for payment of tuition and support services to employees. Employees work
1.11 reduced hours with the employer while taking the skills training.

1.12 (b) Unemployment benefits are payable to an employee in the WIRED program in
1.13 proportion to the amount of the workers' reduced hours as though the employee was
1.14 qualified under the shared work program under Minnesota Statutes, section 268.135.
1.15 The training program must be contained in a written plan signed by an officer of the
1.16 employer and by the commissioner of employment and economic development or the
1.17 commissioner's authorized designee. This section expires June 30, 2011.

1.18 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.