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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 3594

02/17/2022

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

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to judiciary; providing funding for recruitment of volunteer guardian ad
1.3 litem in the Second and Fourth Judicial Districts; requiring a report; appropriating
1.4 money.

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

1.6 Section 1. **RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEER GUARDIAN AD LITEMS;**
1.7 **APPROPRIATION.**

1.8 (a) \$150,000 in fiscal year 2023 is appropriated from the general fund to the State
1.9 Guardian Ad Litem Board to recruit and retain volunteer guardian ad litem in the Second
1.10 and Fourth Judicial Districts. The State Guardian Ad Litem Board shall work to reduce or
1.11 eliminate barriers to attracting, accepting, training, and utilizing volunteer guardian ad
1.12 litem. Money must be used to support the efforts of the volunteer guardian ad litem program
1.13 operated by Court Appointed Special Advocates Minnesota to attract highly qualified
1.14 individuals, increase the diversity of the pool of volunteers, and attract or retain a total
1.15 number of volunteers equal to or greater than the number available on March 1, 2020. This
1.16 is a onetime appropriation.

1.17 (b) By February 1, 2023, the State Guardian Ad Litem Board, in coordination with Court
1.18 Appointed Special Advocates Minnesota, shall submit a preliminary report to the chairs
1.19 and ranking members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over judiciary on how
1.20 funds were used, the amount of money remaining available for use, the total number of new
1.21 volunteers recruited, and any change in the diversity of the pool of volunteers. The State
1.22 Guardian Ad Litem Board, in coordination with Court Appointed Special Advocates
1.23 Minnesota, shall submit a final report describing the use of the funds and any changes in

- 2.1 the volunteer pool to the chairs and ranking members of the legislative committees with
- 2.2 jurisdiction over judiciary by September 15, 2023.