

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1176

DATE: March 8, 2005

Version: As introduced

Authors: Brod

Subject: Modifying the teacher license variance for certain special education teachers

Analyst: Lisa Larson, 651-296-8036

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

The Minnesota Board of Teaching is authorized under statute and rule to issue personnel variances. A school administrator may ask the board to issue a personnel variance that permits a teacher to teach subjects areas for which the teacher is not currently licensed. The term "low incidence" refers to disability areas that occur rarely or in very low numbers. In Minnesota there are eight disability categories that are considered low incidence: deaf blindness; deaf and hard of hearing; vision impairment; physically impaired; other health disability; traumatic brain injury; developmental cognitive disabilities; and autism spectrum disorders. The low frequency of these disabilities and the limited availability of qualified special education personnel in some cases may argue for giving certain special education variances wider application.

Section

- 1** **Variances.** (c) Declares that a special education license variance issued by the board of teaching for a primary employer's low-incidence region is valid in all low-incidence regions.