

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 3332

DATE: March 22, 2006

Version: As introduced

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Subject: Requiring school performance report cards to indicate the percent of test items students must answer correctly

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Overview

A cut score is a specified point on a score scale. Scores at or above the specified point are regarded differently from scores below the specified point. A specified cut score can be designated as the minimum level of performance that students must achieve to pass a statewide competency test (Minnesota public school students must achieve a scale score of 600 on the state's reading and math basic skills tests to pass). One test can have one or multiple cut scores. Multiple cut scores allow test administrators to divide the range of student scores on a test into multiple proficiency ranges. Methods for setting cut scores can vary.

Test administrators determine the percent correct score by dividing the student's raw score by the total number of possible points and multiplying the result by 100.

This bill proposes to require that the school performance report cards the education commissioner uses to designate high and low performing public schools also indicate both the cut score and the corresponding percent correct score at each set performance level for statewide tests.

Section

- 1 School performance report cards.** Requires school performance report cards to indicate, in addition to cut scores, the percent of tests items students must answer correctly at each

Section

performance level for the statewide tests that the education commissioner uses to designate high and low performing schools.

Makes this section effective for the 2006-2007 school year and later.