

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Appropriating money to evaluate student assessment and achievement

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Overview

This bill proposes to appropriate funds to enable the education commissioner to contract for a benchmark study of the MCA II's in 9th grade writing, 10th grade reading and 11th grade math and to enable Minnesota 4th and 8th grade students to participate in the TIMSS international assessment of student achievement in math and science.

Section

1 Appropriations; student achievement studies.

Subd. 1. Department of Education. Appropriates the indicated sums from the general fund to the education department for the designated fiscal years.

Subd. 2. Student assessment benchmark study. Appropriates \$75,000 in fiscal year 2007 for the department to contract for a benchmark study of the MCA II's in 9th grade writing, 10th grade reading and 11th grade math. Requires the department to report study findings to the legislature by April 30, 2007.

Subd. 3. International comparative achievement study. Appropriates \$600,000 in fiscal year 2007 for the department to contract with Boston College to enable Minnesota 4th and 8th grade students to participate in the TIMSS international assessment of student achievement in math and science. Requires school districts to apply to the education commissioner, in the form and manner the commissioner prescribes, to participate in the study. Allows the commissioner to select applicants in collaboration with Boston College. Exempts this contract from the state's competitive

Section

bidding requirements governing professional contracts.