

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 3908

DATE: March 27, 2006

Version: As introduced

Authors: Buesgens

Subject: Authorizing schools to use an interdisciplinary teaching and learning program model

Analyst: Lisa Larson

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

Proposes to establish an interdisciplinary teaching license.

Section

1 Interdisciplinary teaching and learning program model; teacher licensure.

Subd. 1. Interdisciplinary teaching and learning program model. Allows school districts and charter schools to use an interdisciplinary teaching and learning program model at middle or secondary school to allow students to meet the state's rigorous academic standards. Uses a noncourse-based environment or content taught using a multidisciplinary approach. Requires an interdisciplinary program to provide students with an opportunity to design multidisciplinary projects and gain knowledge through individualized demonstrated performance and to use teachers as learning guides and facilitators.

Subd. 2. Teacher licensure. (a) Requires a teacher holding an interdisciplinary license to be licensed under this section. Requires the teacher to have at least two years of successful middle or secondary school classroom teaching experience before seeking this license and two years of supervised successful classroom teaching experience as a middle or secondary school interdisciplinary teacher intern.

(b) Requires an applicant for an interdisciplinary teaching license to complete a board-approved teacher preparation program. Requires the applicant to acquire

Section

knowledge and skills consistent with the state rule governing standards of effective practice for teachers and to successfully demonstrate the knowledge or skills in interdisciplinary settings or programs.

(c) Defines "classroom teaching license" to mean a license to teach middle or secondary school content areas and does not apply to temporary licenses.

Subd. 3. Institutional requirement. (a) Requires postsecondary institutions seeking approval for a teacher preparation program leading to a multidisciplinary license to comply with the state rule governing the approval of teacher preparation programs. Requires interested postsecondary institutions to describe in their program application how the teacher applicant will gain the appropriate experience and preparation in the relevant content areas. Requires the postsecondary institution to establish an evaluation process.

(b) Requires an approved teacher preparation program to include an exit evaluation.

Subd. 4. Rulemaking authority. Directs the Board of Teaching to adopt rules providing for licensure of interdisciplinary teachers.