

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill implements certain public health initiatives, establishing a statewide health improvement program and addressing health, nutrition, and physical education in schools.

Section

- 1** **Required academic standards.** Amends § 120B.021, subd. 1. Modifies the list of subject areas that are required for schools by adding nutrition education, for which locally developed academic standards apply. Makes technical changes.
Provides that this section is effective for the 2008-2009 school year and later.
- 2** **Statewide health improvement program.** Adds § 145.986. Establishes a statewide health improvement program.

Subd. 1. Goals. States the initial goals of the public health improvement program. Permits the commissioner of health, in consultation with the State Community Health Advisory Committee and other stakeholders, to make recommendations as to future goals related to alcohol and illegal drug use.

Subd. 2. Funding local communities. Requires the commissioner of health to provide funding to community health boards, beginning January 1, 2009, in order to coordinate locally developed programs targeted at achieving measurable health improvement goals.

Section

Provides that funding to community health boards will be based on a per capita formula, plus \$50,000 in base funding to each community health board. (There are 53 community health boards in the state.)

States that by January 15, 2011, the commissioner must recommend whether additional funding should be provided to community health boards based on health disparities in the populations served.

Subd. 3. Outcomes. (a) Requires the commissioner of health to set performance measures and annually review progress toward those goals. Permits the commissioner to assist communities in making sufficient progress.

(b) Requires the commissioner to determine baseline data against which progress will be measured.

Subd. 4. Media campaign. Requires the commissioner of health to conduct a statewide marketing campaign to reinforce efforts to address health improvement goals. Requires the commissioner to consult with local public health representatives in developing and conducting these campaigns.

3 Health, nutrition, and physical education work group. (a) Requires the commissioner of education to convene a work group. Specifies that this work group is governed by existing statute as to membership terms, compensation, expiration date and other aspects of administration. Lists the membership for this work group, including which entities may appoint members.

(b) Requires this work group to develop and make recommendations for the following:

- statewide curriculum standards for health, nutrition, and physical education; and
- a wide range of options to provide students with physical activity each day.

Requires the recommendations to include cost estimates for implementing the curriculum standards.

(c) Requires the commissioner of education to report these recommendations to the legislature by January 15, 2009.

4 Appropriations. (a) Provides a blank appropriation from the general fund for fiscal year 2009 to the commissioner of health for the statewide health improvement program. States that the commissioner of health shall provide funding to local communities under this program beginning January 1, 2009.

(b) Provides a blank appropriation from the general fund in fiscal year 2009 to the commissioner of health for the statewide media campaign. Makes funds available to the commissioner beginning January 1, 2009.