

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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### Overview

**This bill contains the Department of Education's early education policy proposals.**

#### Section

- 1 Early childhood family education levy.** Amends § 124D.135, subd. 3. Removes a requirement that districts meet annual program data and reporting requirements before certifying an ECFE levy (these requirements are repealed in section 11).
- 2 Early learning system.** Creates § 124D.145. Defines the early learning system as a coherent structure of research-based curriculum content, instructional practice, program and child assessment, performance-based child and programmatic standards, professional development, engagement and outreach, accountability, financing, and governance efforts that contribute to all aspects of children's development and prepare all children for kindergarten. Specifies that the system is delivered through a variety of public and private child care, preschool, Head Start, and school-based programs and services.
- 3 Establishment; purpose.** Amends § 124D.15, subd. 1. Adds language specifying that the school readiness program is targeted toward children most at-risk for being unprepared for kindergarten.
- 4 Program requirements.** Amends § 124D.15, subd. 3. Modifies school readiness program requirements by modifying requirements related to assessments and comprehensive program content and adding requirements related to coordinating appropriate kindergarten transition with parents and kindergarten teachers, ensuring specified staff-child ratios, and serving children a minimum of 12 hours per week.
- 5 Teachers.** Amends § 124D.15, by adding subd. 10a. Requires school boards to employ necessary qualified teachers trained in early childhood curriculum content, instruction, and competency as determined by the commissioner. Specifies areas of competency include

early childhood development, child observation and assessment, and curriculum planning.

- 6 **Program rating.** Amends § 124D.15, by adding subd. 15. Gives school readiness programs a rating of four stars in any publicly funded pilot early childhood quality rating system. Requires the commissioner to review the pilot evaluation and findings to determine if they are consistent with a four-star rating for school readiness programs at the completion of the quality rating system pilot evaluation.
- 7 **Youth service programs.** Amends § 124D.19, subd. 10. Removes a requirement that the commissioner maintain a list of acceptable projects with a description of each project. Removes a requirement that projects not on the list be approved by the commissioner.
- 8 **Community education; annual report.** Amends § 124D.19, subd. 14. Modifies the information districts must include in their annual community education program reports by removing requirements to include information regarding the cost per participant and cost per contact hour. Removes a requirement that the Department of Education include this same information in their annual community education report.
- 9 **Adult basic education supplemental service grants.** Amends § 124D.522. Modifies the maximum grant amount a single organization can receive.
- 10 **Other duties.** Amends § 299A.297. Removes a reference to school and community advisory teams (the statute governing these teams is repealed in section 11).
- 11 **Repealer.** Repeals §§ 121A.27 (school and community advisory team) and 124D.13, subd. 13 (ECFE plan and program data submission requirements).