

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1187

Version: As introduced

DATE: March 11, 2009

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Subject: Creating a legislative and citizen commission on the future of public education

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Overview

Establishes a 15-member legislative and citizen commission on the future of PK-12 public education and provides direction for its operation.

Section

1 Legislative and citizen commission on the future of public education.

Subd. 1. Establishment. Establishes the 15-member legislative and citizen commission on the future of public education.

Subd. 2. Membership and terms. (a) Identifies the commission's 15 members including six legislators appointed by their respective legislative bodies and nine public members appointed by the governor and the legislature, respectively, and the required expertise of the public members.

(b) Gives legislative appointees four-year terms, governor appointees three-year terms, and requires vacancies to be consistent with the initial appointments.

Subd. 3. Office, officers, compensation. (a) Directs the commission to maintain an office in the Capitol complex.

(b) Directs the commission to rotate its chair and vice chair every two years, with the vice chair assuming the position of chair and an election of a new vice chair. Requires the chair and vice chair to alternate among the representation on the commission.

(c) Provides commission members with reimbursement for reasonable expenses but does not provide compensation for serving on the commission.

Subd. 4. Staff. Allows the commission to employ professional and technical assistance and to use the services of existing legislative staff.

Subd. 5. Information collection; intergovernmental coordination. (a) Allows the commission to seek data from any agency or political subdivision and requires the agency or subdivision to cooperate.

(b) Directs the governor to appoint a liaison to facilitate coordination between the legislative and executive branches.

Subd. 6. Ten-year strategic plan for PK-12 education; duties. Establishes parameters for the commission in preparing its 10-year strategic plan including setting goals and benchmarks, developing time lines, and addressing teacher effectiveness, multiple pathways to success, community and post-secondary participation, leadership development, and student demographics, among other strategies.

Subd. 7. Legislative reports and recommendations. Requires the commission by January 15, 2011 to recommend to the legislature a 10-year plan for PK-12 education so that students have the knowledge and skills to succeed in the 21st century. Directs the commission to make annual reports beginning January 15, 2012, and include any draft legislation needed to implement its recommended plan.

Subd. 8. Acceptance of gifts and grants. Allows the commission to accept gifts and grants for commission purposes and appropriates the funds from such gifts and grants to the commission, consistent with any specified purposes for the funds.

Subd. 9. Expiration. Causes the commission to expire on January 15, 2021.

- 2 **Legislative and citizen commission on the future of public education; convening authority.** Requires initial commission appointments to be made by July 1, 2009. Directs the commission to convene its first meeting by September 15, 2009. Directs the commission to elect its chair and vice chair at the first meeting.
- 3 **Appropriation.** Appropriates \$20,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$20,000 in fiscal year 2011 for the commission.