

**Subject** Authorizing Funding for K12 Cooperatives to Transport ALC Students

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## Overview

In Minnesota, some programming for students who are not having success in the regular school classroom may be provided through a State Approved Alternative Program (SAAP). SAAPs consist of Area Learning Centers (ALCs), Area Learning Programs (ALPs), and contract alternative programs. A group of districts may form an ALC; often the ALC holds its classes at a facility away from the regular secondary school. ALCs are funded through the transfer of general education revenue for the students served by the ALC. Because ALCs are generally formed by a group of school districts, transportation can be a barrier to a student's attendance at an ALC, which is often located outside of a student's school district of residence.

The 2023 Legislature created a reimbursement aid program for pupil transportation (capped at \$1 million per year) for school districts whose students attend an ALC for to and from school pupil transportation costs.

H.F. 5007 extends the parameters of the aid so that an intermediate school district or other cooperative unit may directly provide the pupil transportation services, creates a separate aid cap for services provided by the cooperative units, and increases the annual school district reimbursement aid cap by an unspecified amount.

## Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <b>Area learning center transportation aid.</b><br>Includes intermediate school districts and other cooperative units in the definition of "district" for purposes of qualifying for Area Learning Center (ALC) pupil transportation aid. Establishes a separate aid reimbursement cap for the transportation provided by cooperative units and increases the school district |
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Section	Description
	reimbursement cap by an unspecified amount. Requires 100 percent of the aid to be paid in the current fiscal year.
2	<b>Pupil transportation adjustment.</b> Includes the ALC pupil transportation aid amount for the previous year in the calculation of each school district's pupil transportation adjustment.
3	<b>ALC transportation aid. [Appropriation]</b> Increases the appropriation for ALC aid to an unspecified amount.



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