Overview

Proposes to require remedial instruction for students in grades 1 to 6 who fail a reading, math or writing course, beginning the 2001-2002 school year and later. Encourages school districts to provide remedial instruction beginning the 1999-2000 school year. Allows school districts, with commissioner approval, to transfer funds from any fund or account that has a surplus balance for the purpose of providing remedial instruction. Requires school districts to report the numbers of students needing remedial instruction and the costs of that instruction.

Section

1  **Curriculum.** (b) Requires every student in grades 1 to 6 who receives a letter "D" or "F" or the equivalent for failing a reading, math, or writing course to receive remedial instruction. Requires school districts, using proven instructional practices, to provide remedial instruction to all eligible students in an after-school program or during summer school. Requires a teacher to inform a student in a timely fashion that the student is obligated to receive remedial instruction. Requires the student's parent and present and future teachers of the student to jointly decide on the content of the remedial instruction. Directs an individual education plan team to establish a basis for determining whether a disabled student requires remedial instruction.

2  **Approval standard; remedial education.** Allows the commissioner to approve a fund transfer from any fund or account other than the debt redemption fund if the district requesting the transfer demonstrates to the commissioner that the fund or account has a surplus balance and that the amount transferred will be spent on remedial education services.

3  **Report.** (a) Encourages school districts to provide remedial instruction during the 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 school years. Requires school districts that provide the instruction to report to the commissioner by July 1, 2000 on the number of students, by grade, that receive remedial instruction and the cost and methods of instruction. Directs all other school districts to report to the commissioner by July 1, 2000 on the number of students, by grade, who would have
required remedial instruction during the 1999-2000 school year. Directs the commissioner to compile the data and report to the legislature by October 1, 2000.

(b) Directs all school districts by January 1, 2001 to identify and report to the commissioner the number of students who require remedial instruction under section 1 based on their failure to meet reading, math or writing requirements during the 2000-2001 school year, and the estimated cost for that remediation by grade. Directs the commissioner to compile the data under this paragraph and report to the legislature by February 15, 2001, in order for the committees to determine the costs of remedial instruction for the 2001-2002 school year.

4 **Categorical aid for remedial instruction.** Requires the legislature to consider the desirability of establishing a categorical aid for remedial instruction.