Overview

Amends the definition of school district of residence for the purpose of determining the resident school district of a homeless student. Provides additional revenue to school districts for providing educational programs to homeless students and to assist homeless students in meeting the state's high school graduation standards.

1 Additional revenue for homeless students. Bases the additional revenue a district receives for homeless students eligible to participate in the graduation incentives program on the number of homeless students enrolled in the district on October 1.

2 Reporting; revenue for the homeless. Strikes language in the definition of homeless pupil declaring that a homeless pupil is a resident of the school district in which the homeless shelter or other program, center or facility assisting the homeless pupil or the pupil's family is located. Declares that the resident district of a homeless pupil is the district that enrolls the pupil.

3 Matching grants for education programs serving homeless children. Requires school districts that receive capital facilities for serving homeless children and their families to match $2, instead of $1, of state grant money with $1 of nonstate money.

4 Grant for implementing graduation standards in alternative programs and area learning centers.
   Subd. 1. Establishment. Establishes a grant program for alternative programs and area learning centers to implement the state's graduation standards.
   Subd. 2. System of implementation. Directs the Minnesota association of alternative programs to develop a system to implement the state's graduation standards for students in alternative programs, including area learning centers, contract alternatives, correctional institutions and homeless shelters. Requires the system to: preassess and document student performance; adapt, modify and validate graduation standards performance packages; implement a continuous improvement process; and integrate school-to-work activities into the graduation standards.
Subd. 3. Grant awards. Directs the commissioner to award up to 20 grants of up to $20,000 each. Requires grant recipients, which must be alternative programs, to implement, disseminate information, and provide regional training for the system. Requires grant recipients to report their progress to the Minnesota association of alternative programs at the request of the association.

Appropriation.

Subd. 1. Department of children, families and learning. Appropriates specified sums from the general fund to the department of children, families and learning in the fiscal years indicated.


Subd. 3. Graduation implementation grants. Appropriates $500,000 in fiscal year 2000 for a grant to implement graduation standards in alternative programs and alternative learning centers. Makes $200,000 of the appropriation available to the Minnesota association of alternative programs to develop a system for implementing graduation standards for students in alternative programs.