

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: E-16 reforms to improve students' educational attainment

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Overview

Proposes to establish a 12-member advisory oversight committee composed of legislative and executive branch members charged with appointing and using the recommendations of five advisory subcommittees on early learning, pre-K through grade 3, grades 4 through 8, grades 9 through 12, and transitions to post secondary education to advise the legislature, assuming up to \$1 billion in additional education funding, on improving student achievement, effectively integrating the E-16 education system, making highly qualified educators available to all students, and increasing public awareness of the link between educated citizens and the state's economic and civic health, all in the context of increasing by 50 percent by 2020 the number of Minnesota students who complete a post secondary program.

Section

1 E-16 reform; developing recommendations for improving the E-16 educational system and student outcomes.

Subd. 1. Oversight advisory committee; advisory subcommittees. (a) Directs a 12-member E-16 oversight advisory committee composed of members of the legislative and executive branches of state government to appoint advisory subcommittee members with expertise in specific E-16 structural components to develop recommendations for improving the E-16 education system and student outcomes.

(b) Directs the oversight advisory committee to appoint advisory subcommittee members charged with seeking assistance from experts and other information sources to explore research-based strategies and solutions that help address specific issues listed in the legislation and to use a thoughtful, iterative process of consensus building to develop recommendations. Requires subcommittees to hold public meetings at least quarterly.

(c) Directs the oversight advisory committee and its subcommittees to frame their recommendations in the context of increasing by 50 percent by 2020 the number of Minnesota students who complete a post secondary program, with the expectation of having up to \$1 billion available in additional funding for this purpose. Directs the oversight advisory committee to use the subcommittee recommendations it submits to the legislature to develop its own recommendations for the legislature that address improving student achievement, effectively integrating the E-16 education system, making highly qualified educators available to all students, and increasing public awareness of the link between educated citizens and the state's economic and civic health.

(d) Directs the oversight advisory committee to seek funds from public and nonpublic sources for the committees' operational costs. Directs the subcommittees to submit an interim report by 12/31/09 and a final report by 12/31/10 to the oversight advisory committee. Directs the oversight advisory committee to submit its recommendations and the subcommittees' recommendations to the legislature within 45 days of receiving the subcommittee reports. Causes the committees to expire on March 1, 2011.

Subd. 2. Early learning advisory subcommittee. (a) Directs this subcommittee to develop recommendations for improving children's early learning from birth to age 5 in the context of 12 listed factors.

(b) Directs this subcommittee to address the existing early care and education infrastructure, the development of an early learning quality rating scale and an integrated funding model, and how best to use available public and nonpublic resources to complement a statewide funding model to improve early learning.

(c) Requires subcommittee members to have expertise in early learning.

Subd. 3. Pre-K through grade 3 advisory subcommittee. (a) Directs this subcommittee to develop recommendations for improving and accelerating the development of children's early language, math, and social skills, providing pre-school and out-of-school programs, and reducing class sizes.

(b) Directs this subcommittee to address the alignment and sequence of standards, curriculum, instruction, and assessment, organizational structures for providing pre-K and kindergarten programs, preparation and certification requirements for pre-K to grade 3 teachers, small class sizes, school accountability, literacy and math curricula and instruction, and an integrated funding model.

(c) Requires subcommittee members to have expertise in pre-K to grade 3 education.

Subd. 4. Grades 4 through 8 advisory subcommittee. (a) Directs this subcommittee to develop recommendations for improving students' transition from elementary to high school to enable them to achieve proficiency in core curriculum, form positive identities and patterns of behavior, and experience high school success.

(b) Directs this subcommittee to address middle level organizational structures, instructional practices, and classroom learning environments, middle level teacher and administrator competencies, middle level student transitions, professional

collaboration and networks, data-driven decision making, small learning communities, family and community involvement, and an integrated funding model.

(c) Requires subcommittee members to have expertise in grades 4 through 8 education.

Subd. 5. Grades 9 through 12 advisory subcommittee. (a) Directs this subcommittee to develop recommendations for improving students' readiness for post secondary education that includes a successful transition from high school.

(b) Directs this subcommittee to address high school designs, the alignment of courses and assessments, need-based financial aid policies, an integrated K-12 and post secondary education accountability system, improved and more accessible education-related information for policy makers and the public, and an integrated funding model.

(c) Requires subcommittee members to have expertise in grades 9 through 12 education.

Subd. 6. Transitions to post secondary education 12 advisory subcommittee.

(a) Directs this subcommittee to develop recommendations for improving students' access to a successful post secondary experience by lowering financial and informational barriers to and ensuring better academic preparation for post secondary education.

(b) Directs this subcommittee to address the alignment of college readiness indicators and K-12 standards and assessments, teacher professional development, improved student counseling, an understandable and accessible student financial aid system, improved support in preparing middle and high school students for post secondary education, student intervention programs, and an integrated funding model.

(c) Requires subcommittee members to have expertise in transitions to post secondary education.

Makes this section effective immediately.