

336.1 **ARTICLE 17**
336.2 **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

159.23 **ARTICLE 12**
159.24 **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

159.25 Section 1. **[124D.1295] EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM COORDINATION.**

159.26 Subdivision 1. **Early learning program coordination.** A school board, after
159.27 receiving written comments from its early childhood advisory council or its community
159.28 education council, may adopt a resolution allowing the district to offer an integrated early
159.29 learning program. An integrated early learning program may provide for early childhood
159.30 family education services, school readiness services, and other early learning programs
159.31 providing services to parents and children. A school district's integrated early learning
160.1 program must continue to contain components of parent education, opportunities for early
160.2 learning activities for families with young children, and school readiness activities.

160.3 Subd. 2. **Early learning program revenue sources.** A school district's early
160.4 learning program revenue includes its early childhood family education revenue under
160.5 section 124D.135, school readiness program revenue under section 124D.16, and any
160.6 other revenues set aside for early learning activities.

160.7 Subd. 3. **Reserve account.** A district that offers an integrated early learning
160.8 program must place all of the revenue it receives under subdivision 2 in an early learning
160.9 program reserve account established in the community service fund.

160.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for fiscal year 2017 and later.

160.11 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.13, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

160.12 Subdivision 1. **Establishment; purpose.** A district that provides a community
160.13 education program under sections 124D.18 and 124D.19 may establish an early childhood
160.14 family education program as an individual program or as a part of an early learning
160.15 program under section 124D.1295. Two or more districts, each of which provides a
160.16 community education program, may cooperate to jointly provide an early childhood
160.17 family education program. The purpose of the early childhood family education program
160.18 is to provide parenting education to support children's learning and development.

160.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2016.

160.20 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.13, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

160.21 Subd. 5. **Separate accounts.** ~~The~~ A district operating an early childhood family
160.22 education program independent of an early learning program under section 124D.1295
160.23 must maintain a separate account within the community education fund for money for
160.24 early childhood family education programs.

160.25 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for fiscal year 2017 and later.

160.26 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.13, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

160.27 Subd. 9. **District advisory councils.** The board must appoint an advisory council
160.28 from the area in which the program is provided. A majority of the council must be parents
160.29 participating in the program, who represent the demographics of the community. The
160.30 district must ensure, to the extent possible, that the council includes representation of
160.31 families who are racially, culturally, linguistically, and economically diverse. The council
160.32 must assist the board in developing, planning, and monitoring the early childhood family
161.1 education program and the early learning program under section 124D.1295. The council
161.2 must report to the board and the community education advisory council.

161.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2016.

161.4 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.135, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

161.5 Subd. 5. **Use of revenue restricted.** (a) Early childhood family education revenue
161.6 may be used only for early learning programs, including early childhood family education
161.7 programs.

161.8 (b) Not more than five percent of early childhood family education revenue, as defined
161.9 in subdivision 7, may be used to administer early childhood family education programs.

161.10 (c) An early childhood family education program may use up to ten percent of its
161.11 early childhood family education revenue as defined in subdivision 1, including revenue
161.12 from participant fees, for equipment that is used in the early childhood family education
161.13 program. This revenue may only be used for the following purposes:

161.14 (1) to purchase or lease computers and related materials; and

161.15 (2) to purchase or lease equipment for instruction for participating children and
161.16 their families.

161.17 If a district anticipates an unusual circumstance requiring its early childhood family
161.18 education program capital expenditures to exceed the ten percent limitation, prior approval
161.19 to exceed the limit must be obtained in writing from the commissioner.

161.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for fiscal year 2017 and later.

336.3 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.135, subdivision 6, is amended to
336.4 read:

336.5 Subd. 6. **Home visiting levy revenue.** (a) A district that is eligible to levy for
336.6 early childhood family education under subdivision 3 and that enters into a collaborative
336.7 agreement to provide education services and social services to families with young
336.8 children may levy an amount equal to \$1.60 is eligible for home visiting revenue.

336.9 (b) Total home visiting revenue for a district equals \$3 times the number of people
 336.10 under five years of age residing in the district on September 1 of the last school year. ~~Levy~~
 336.11 Revenue under this subdivision must not be included as revenue under subdivision 1. The
 336.12 revenue must be used for home visiting programs under section 124D.13, subdivision 4.

336.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue in fiscal year 2018 and
 336.14 later.

336.15 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.135, is amended by adding a
 336.16 subdivision to read:

336.17 Subd. 6a. **Home visiting levy.** To obtain home visiting revenue, a district may levy
 336.18 an amount not more than the product of its home visiting revenue for the fiscal year times
 336.19 the lesser of one or the ratio of its adjusted net tax capacity per adjusted pupil unit to the
 336.20 home visiting equalizing factor. The home visiting equalizing factor equals \$17,250 for
 336.21 fiscal year 2018 and later.

336.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue in fiscal year 2018 and
 336.23 later.

336.24 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.135, is amended by adding a
 336.25 subdivision to read:

336.26 Subd. 6b. **Home visiting aid.** A district's home visiting aid equals its home visiting
 336.27 revenue minus its home visiting levy times the ratio of the actual amount levied to the
 336.28 permitted levy.

336.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue in fiscal year 2018 and
 336.30 later.

161.21 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.135, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

161.22 Subd. 7. **Reserve account.** Early childhood family education revenue, which
 161.23 includes aids, levies, fees, grants, and all other revenues received by the district for early
 161.24 childhood family education programs, must be maintained in either an early learning
 161.25 program reserve account or a separate early childhood family education reserve account
 161.26 within the community service fund.

161.27 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for fiscal year 2017 and later.

161.28 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.15, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

161.29 Subdivision 1. **Establishment; purpose.** A district, charter school, or a group of
161.30 districts or charter schools may establish a school readiness program for children age
161.31 three to kindergarten entrance. The purpose of a school readiness program is to prepare
161.32 children to enter kindergarten.

162.1 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.15, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

162.2 Subd. 3a. **Application and reporting requirements.** (a) A school readiness
162.3 program provider must submit a biennial plan for approval by the commissioner before
162.4 receiving aid under section 124D.16. The plan must describe how the program meets the
162.5 program requirements under subdivision 3. A school district by April 1 or charter school
162.6 must submit the plan for approval by the commissioner in the form and manner and by the
162.7 date prescribed by the commissioner. ~~One-half the districts must first submit the plan by~~
162.8 ~~April 1, 2006, and one-half the districts must first submit the plan by April 1, 2007, as~~
162.9 ~~determined by the commissioner.~~

162.10 (b) Programs receiving school readiness funds annually must submit a report to
162.11 the department.

162.12 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2015 Supplement, section 124D.16, subdivision 2, is
162.13 amended to read:

162.14 Subd. 2. **Amount of aid.** (a) A district or charter school is eligible to receive school
162.15 readiness aid for eligible prekindergarten pupils enrolled in a school readiness program
162.16 under section 124D.15 if the biennial plan required by section 124D.15, subdivision 3a,
162.17 has been approved by the commissioner.

162.18 (b) A school district must receive school readiness aid equal to:

162.19 (1) the number of four-year-old children in the district on October 1 for the previous
162.20 school year times the ratio of 50 percent of the total school readiness aid for that year to
162.21 the total number of four-year-old children reported to the commissioner for the previous
162.22 school year; plus

162.23 (2) the number of pupils enrolled in the school district from families eligible for the
162.24 free or reduced-price school lunch program for the previous school year times the ratio
162.25 of 50 percent of the total school readiness aid for that year to the total number of pupils
162.26 in the state from families eligible for the free or reduced-price school lunch program for
162.27 the previous school year.

162.28 (c) The total school readiness aid entitlement equals \$23,558,000 for fiscal year 2016
162.29 and \$33,683,000 for fiscal year 2017 and later.

162.30 (d) If the aid entitlement in paragraph (c) is increased above \$33,683,000 for any
162.31 year, the commissioner must calculate the school readiness aid entitlement for charter
162.32 schools equal to the aid entitlement in the current year less \$33,683,000. A charter
162.33 school's school readiness aid equals:

162.34 (1) the number of kindergarten pupils enrolled in the charter school on October 1 for
162.35 the previous school year times the ratio of 50 percent of the total charter school readiness
163.1 aid for that year to the total number of charter school kindergarten pupils reported to the
163.2 commissioner for the previous school year; plus

163.3 (2) the number of pupils enrolled in the charter school from families eligible for the
163.4 free or reduced-price school lunch program for the previous school year times the ratio
163.5 of 50 percent of the total charter school readiness aid for that year to the total number of
163.6 pupils in all charter schools from families eligible for the free or reduced-price school
163.7 lunch program for the previous school year.

163.8 (e) If the aid entitlement under paragraph (c) is increased above \$36,683,000, the
163.9 commissioner must combine the counts for school districts and charter schools under
163.10 paragraphs (b) and (c) and compute aid amounts accordingly.

163.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2018
163.12 and later.

163.13 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.16, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

163.14 Subd. 3. **Use of aid.** School readiness aid shall be used only to provide a school
163.15 readiness program or an early learning program and may be used to provide transportation.
163.16 Not more than five percent of program revenue, as defined in subdivision 5, may be used
163.17 for the cost of administering the program. Aid must be used to supplement and not supplant
163.18 local, state, and federal funding. Aid may not be used for instruction and services required
163.19 under sections 125A.03 to 125A.24 and 125A.65. Aid may not be used to purchase land
163.20 or construct buildings, but may be used to lease or renovate existing buildings.

163.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for fiscal year 2017 and later.

163.22 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.16, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

163.23 Subd. 5. **Reserve account.** School readiness revenue, which includes aids, fees,
163.24 grants, and all other revenues received by the district school readiness programs, must
163.25 be maintained in either an early learning program reserve account or a school readiness
163.26 reserve account within the community service fund.

163.27 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for fiscal year 2017 and later.

107.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2015 Supplement, section 124D.165, subdivision 2,
107.8 is amended to read:

107.9 Subd. 2. **Family eligibility.** (a) For a family to receive an early learning scholarship,
107.10 parents or guardians must meet the following eligibility requirements:

107.11 (1) have a child three or four years of age on September 1 of the current school year,
107.12 who has not yet started kindergarten; and

107.13 (2) have income equal to or less than 185 percent of federal poverty level income
107.14 in the current calendar year, or be able to document their child's current participation in
107.15 the free and reduced-price lunch program or child and adult care food program, National
107.16 School Lunch Act, United States Code, title 42, sections 1751 and 1766; the Food
107.17 Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, Food and Nutrition Act, United States
107.18 Code, title 7, sections 2011-2036; Head Start under the federal Improving Head Start for
107.19 School Readiness Act of 2007; Minnesota family investment program under chapter 256J;
107.20 child care assistance programs under chapter 119B; the supplemental nutrition assistance
107.21 program; or placement in foster care under section 260C.212.

107.22 (b) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, a parent under age 21 who
107.23 is pursuing a high school or general education equivalency diploma is eligible for an early
107.24 learning scholarship if the parent has a child age zero to five years old and meets the
107.25 income eligibility guidelines in this subdivision.

107.26 (c) Any siblings between the ages zero to five years old of a child who has been
107.27 awarded a scholarship under this section must be awarded a scholarship upon request,
107.28 provided the sibling attends the same program as long as funds are available.

107.29 (d) A child who has received a scholarship under this section must continue to
107.30 receive a scholarship each year until that child is eligible for kindergarten under section
107.31 120A.20 and as long as funds are available.

163.28 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 124D.165, as amended by Laws 2015, First
163.29 Special Session chapter 3, article 9, section 6, is amended to read:
163.30 **124D.165 EARLY LEARNING SCHOLARSHIPS.**

164.1 Subdivision 1. **Establishment; purpose.** There is established an early learning
164.2 scholarships program in order to increase access to high-quality early childhood programs
164.3 for children ages three to five.

164.4 Subd. 2. **Family eligibility.** (a) For a family to receive an early learning scholarship,
164.5 parents or guardians must meet the following eligibility requirements:

164.6 (1) have a child three or four years of age on September 1 of the current school year,
164.7 who has not yet started kindergarten; and

164.8 (2) have income equal to or less than 185 percent of federal poverty level income
164.9 in the current calendar year, or be able to document their child's current participation in
164.10 the free and reduced-price lunch program or child and adult care food program, National
164.11 School Lunch Act, United States Code, title 42, sections 1751 and 1766; the Food
164.12 Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, Food and Nutrition Act, United States
164.13 Code, title 7, sections 2011-2036; Head Start under the federal Improving Head Start for
164.14 School Readiness Act of 2007; Minnesota family investment program under chapter 256J;
164.15 child care assistance programs under chapter 119B; the supplemental nutrition assistance
164.16 program; or placement in foster care under section 260C.212.

164.17 (b) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, a child from birth to age five
164.18 and not yet enrolled in kindergarten is eligible for an early learning scholarship if the child's
164.19 family meets the income eligibility standard established in paragraph (a), clause (2), and:

164.20 (1) the child's parent is under age 21 who and is pursuing a high school or general
164.21 education equivalency diploma is eligible for an early learning scholarship if the parent
164.22 has a child age zero to five years old and meets the income eligibility guidelines in this
164.23 subdivision;

164.24 (2) the child is in foster care or otherwise a child in need of protection or services; or

164.25 (3) the child's family has experienced homelessness in the last 24 months.

164.26 (c) Any siblings between the ages zero to five years old of a child who has been
164.27 awarded a scholarship under this section must be awarded a scholarship upon request,
164.28 provided the sibling attends the same program as long as funds are available.

164.29 (d) A child who has received a scholarship under this section must continue to
164.30 receive a scholarship each year until that child is eligible for kindergarten under section
164.31 120A.20 and as long as funds are available.

107.32 (e) Early learning scholarships may not be counted as earned income for the
 107.33 purposes of medical assistance under chapter 256B, MinnesotaCare under chapter 256L,
 107.34 Minnesota family investment program under chapter 256J, child care assistance programs
 108.1 under chapter 119B, or Head Start under the federal Improving Head Start for School
 108.2 Readiness Act of 2007.

108.3 (f) A child from an adjoining state whose family resides at a Minnesota address as
 108.4 assigned by the United States Postal Service, who has received developmental screening
 108.5 under sections 121A.16 to 121A.19, who intends to enroll in a Minnesota school district,
 108.6 and whose family meets the criteria of paragraph (a) is eligible for an early learning
 108.7 scholarship under this section.

108.8 (g) A child whose family is homeless and meets the criteria in paragraph (a), clause
 108.9 (1), is eligible for an early learning scholarship under this section.

164.32 (e) Early learning scholarships may not be counted as earned income for the
 164.33 purposes of medical assistance under chapter 256B, MinnesotaCare under chapter 256L,
 164.34 Minnesota family investment program under chapter 256J, child care assistance programs
 164.35 under chapter 119B, or Head Start under the federal Improving Head Start for School
 164.36 Readiness Act of 2007.

165.1 (f) A child from an adjoining state whose family resides at a Minnesota address as
 165.2 assigned by the United States Postal Service, who has received developmental screening
 165.3 under sections 121A.16 to 121A.19, who intends to enroll in a Minnesota school district,
 165.4 and whose family meets the criteria of paragraph (a) is eligible for an early learning
 165.5 scholarship under this section.

165.6 Subd. 3. **Administration.** (a) The commissioner shall establish application
 165.7 timelines and determine the schedule for awarding scholarships that meets operational
 165.8 needs of eligible families and programs. The commissioner may prioritize applications
 165.9 on factors including:

165.10 (1) family income;

165.11 (2) geographic location; and;

165.12 (3) whether the child's family is on a waiting list for a publicly funded program
 165.13 providing early education or child care services;

165.14 (4) whether the child is in foster care or otherwise a child in need of protection or
 165.15 services; and

165.16 (5) whether the child's family has experienced homelessness in the last 24 months.

165.17 (b) ~~For fiscal years 2014 and 2015 only, scholarships may not exceed \$5,000 per year~~
 165.18 ~~for each eligible child.~~ For fiscal year 2016 and later, the commissioner shall establish
 165.19 a target for the average scholarship amount per child based on the results of the rate
 165.20 survey conducted under section 119B.02. The commissioner may award a scholarship
 165.21 in excess of this amount to a child who qualifies for priority enrollment under paragraph
 165.22 (a), clause (4) or (5).

165.23 (c) A four-star rated program that has children eligible for a scholarship enrolled
165.24 in or on a waiting list for a program beginning in July, August, or September may notify
165.25 the commissioner, in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, each year of
165.26 the program's desire to enhance program services ~~or~~ and to serve more children than
165.27 current funding provides. The commissioner may designate a predetermined number of
165.28 scholarship slots for that program and notify the program of that number. Beginning July
165.29 1, 2016, a school district or Head Start program qualifying under this paragraph, a licensed
165.30 child care center, or a family child care provider may use its established registration
165.31 process to enroll scholarship recipients and may verify a scholarship recipient's family
165.32 income in the same manner as for other program participants. Scholarships awarded under
165.33 this section must be paid to the eligible program provider designated by the award recipient
165.34 and must be transferred to another eligible program provider at the recipient's request.

165.35 (d) A scholarship is awarded for a 12-month period. If the scholarship recipient has
165.36 not been accepted and subsequently enrolled in a rated program within ten months of the
166.1 awarding of the scholarship, the scholarship cancels and the recipient must reapply in
166.2 order to be eligible for another scholarship. A child may not be awarded more than one
166.3 scholarship in a 12-month period.

166.4 (e) A child who receives a scholarship who has not completed development
166.5 screening under sections 121A.16 to 121A.19 must complete that screening within 90
166.6 days of first attending an eligible program.

166.7 (f) For fiscal year ~~2017~~ 2018 and later, ~~a school district or Head Start program~~
166.8 ~~enrolling scholarship recipients under paragraph (e) may apply to the commissioner, in~~
166.9 ~~the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, for direct payment of state aid.~~
166.10 ~~Upon receipt of the application, the commissioner must pay each program directly for~~
166.11 ~~each approved scholarship recipient enrolled under paragraph (e) according to the metered~~
166.12 ~~payment system or another schedule established by the commissioner. the total amount of~~
166.13 funding directly allocated to a program under paragraph (c) must not exceed the amount
166.14 directly awarded to that program in fiscal year 2017.

166.15 Subd. 4. **Early childhood program eligibility.** (a) In order to be eligible to accept
166.16 an early learning scholarship, a program must:

166.17 (1) participate in the quality rating and improvement system under section
166.18 124D.142; and

166.19 (2) beginning July 1, ~~2016~~ 2020, have a three- or four-star rating in the quality
166.20 rating and improvement system.

166.21 (b) Any program accepting scholarships must use the revenue to supplement and not
166.22 supplant federal funding.

166.23 (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), all Minnesota early learning foundation
166.24 scholarship program pilot sites are eligible to accept an early learning scholarship under
166.25 this section.

166.26 (d) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), beginning September 1, 2016, a qualifying newly
 166.27 opened program carries the rating of its affiliated program for its first two years of operation.

166.28 (e) For purposes of this subdivision, "qualifying newly opened program" means
 166.29 a program in its first two years of operation actively pursuing a rating whose on-site
 166.30 director has experience operating a three- or four-star rated program, and "affiliated
 166.31 program" means a program with which the newly opened program shares an ownership or
 166.32 management interest or is otherwise structurally linked.

166.33 Subd. 5. **Report required.** The commissioner shall contract with an independent
 166.34 contractor to evaluate the early learning scholarship program. The evaluation must
 166.35 include recommendations regarding the appropriate scholarship amount, efficiency, and
 166.36 effectiveness of the administration, and impact on kindergarten readiness. By January
 167.1 15, 2016, the commissioner shall submit a written copy of the evaluation to the chairs
 167.2 and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with primary
 167.3 jurisdiction over kindergarten through grade 12 education.

167.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2016.

UEH2749-1

336.31 Sec. 4. **[124D.173] HELP ME GROW SYSTEM.**

337.1 Subdivision 1. **Purpose.** The purpose of this section is to develop and implement
 337.2 a comprehensive, statewide, coordinated system of early identification, referral, and
 337.3 follow-up for children, prenatal through age eight, and their families.

337.4 Subd. 2. **Establishment and administration.** The commissioner of education shall
 337.5 provide funding and shall work collaboratively through interagency agreements with the
 337.6 commissioners of human services and health to implement this section and maintain
 337.7 annual affiliate status with the Help Me Grow National Center.

337.8 Subd. 3. **Duties.** (a) The Help Me Grow system shall coordinate sectors, including
 337.9 child health, early learning and education, and family supports by:

337.10 (1) providing child health care provider outreach to support early detection,
 337.11 intervention, and knowledge about local resources;

337.12 (2) identifying and providing access to detection tools used to identify young
 337.13 children at risk for developmental and behavioral problems; and

337.14 (3) linking children and families to appropriate community-based services.

337.15 (b) The Help Me Grow system shall provide community outreach that includes
 337.16 support for, and participation in, the Help Me Grow system, including disseminating
 337.17 information on the system and compiling and maintaining a resource directory that
 337.18 includes, but is not limited to:

337.19 (1) primary and specialty medical care providers;
 337.20 (2) early childhood education and child care programs;
 337.21 (3) developmental disabilities assessment and intervention programs;
 337.22 (4) mental health services;
 337.23 (5) family and social support programs;
 337.24 (6) child advocacy and legal services;
 337.25 (7) public health services and resources; and
 337.26 (8) other appropriate early childhood information.

337.27 (c) The Help Me Grow system shall develop a centralized access point for parents
 337.28 and professionals to obtain information, resources, and other support services.

337.29 (d) The Help Me Grow system shall collect data to increase understanding of all
 337.30 aspects of the current and ongoing system under this section, including identification of
 337.31 gaps in service, barriers to finding and receiving appropriate service, and lack of resources.

337.32 Subd. 4. **Review.** The Department of Education shall annually review and by
 337.33 February 1 report to the chairs and the ranking minority members of the legislative
 337.34 committees with jurisdiction over early childhood education the following:

337.35 (1) outcomes achieved by this system;
 337.36 (2) alignment with overall early childhood goals and objectives; and
 338.1 (3) impacts on young children.

338.2 Sec. 5. Laws 2015, First Special Session chapter 3, article 9, section 8, subdivision 7,
 338.3 is amended to read:

338.4 Subd. 7. **Parent-child home program.** For a grant to the parent-child home
 338.5 program:

338.6	\$	350,000	.....	2016
338.7		350,000		
338.8	\$	<u>1,350,000</u>	.....	2017

167.5 Sec. 13. Laws 2015, First Special Session chapter 3, article 9, section 8, subdivision 7,
 167.6 is amended to read:

167.7 Subd. 7. **Parent-child home program.** For a grant to the parent-child home
 167.8 program:

167.9	\$	350,000	.....	2016
167.10		350,000		
167.11	\$	<u>2,350,000</u>	.....	2017

338.9 The grant must be used for an evidence-based and research-validated early
 338.10 childhood literacy and school readiness program for children ages 16 months to four
 338.11 years at its existing suburban program location. The program must include urban and
 338.12 rural program locations for fiscal years 2016 and 2017. The base for fiscal year 2018
 338.13 and later is \$1,000,000.

334.9 Sec. 7. Laws 2015, First Special Session chapter 3, article 9, section 8, subdivision 9,
 334.10 is amended to read:

334.11 Subd. 9. **Quality Rating System.** For transfer to the commissioner of human
 334.12 services for the purposes of expanding the Quality Rating and Improvement System under
 334.13 Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.142, in greater Minnesota and increasing supports for
 334.14 providers participating in the Quality Rating and Improvement System:

334.15	\$	1,200,000	.....	2016
334.16		2,300,000		
334.17	\$	<u>2,800,000</u>	.....	2017

334.18 Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year. The
 334.19 base for this program in fiscal year 2018 and later is \$1,750,000.

338.14 Sec. 6. APPROPRIATIONS.

167.12 The grant must be used for an evidence-based and research-validated early childhood
 167.13 literacy and school readiness program for children ages 16 months to four years at its
 167.14 existing suburban program location. The program must include urban and rural program
 167.15 locations for fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

167.16 The base appropriation for this program for fiscal year 2018 and later is \$350,000.
 167.17 The 2017 appropriation is available until June 30, 2019.

167.18 To the extent practicable, the parent-child home program is encouraged to expend
 167.19 the fiscal year 2017 appropriation equally over fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

167.20 Sec. 14. Laws 2015, First Special Session chapter 3, article 9, section 8, subdivision 9,
 167.21 is amended to read:

167.22 Subd. 9. **Quality Rating System.** For transfer to the commissioner of human
 167.23 services for the purposes of expanding the Quality Rating and Improvement System under
 167.24 Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.142, in greater Minnesota and increasing supports for
 167.25 providers participating in the Quality Rating and Improvement System:

167.26	\$	1,200,000	.....	2016
167.27		2,300,000		
167.28	\$	<u>4,300,000</u>	.....	2017

167.29 To the extent possible, the commissioner must direct at least \$2,000,000 of the 2017
 167.30 appropriation toward increasing access and providing training assistance to providers who
 167.31 are located in underserved or low-income neighborhoods.

167.32 Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year. The
 167.33 base for this program in fiscal year 2018 and later is \$1,750,000.

167.34 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2016.

168.1 Sec. 15. **REPORT ON EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM PROVIDERS.**

168.2 The Department of Education, in coordination with the Department of Human
 168.3 Services, must provide a report to the legislature by February 15, 2017, summarizing
 168.4 available data collected on the demographics of early childhood providers and other early
 168.5 childhood program staff, administrators, and board members.

168.6 Sec. 16. **APPROPRIATION.**

338.15 Subdivision 1. **Department of Education.** The sums indicated in this section are
 338.16 appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education for the fiscal years
 338.17 designated.

338.18 Subd. 2. **Help Me Grow.** For implementation of the Help Me Grow system under
 338.19 Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.173:

338.20 \$ 1,000,000 2017

338.21 This is a onetime appropriation.

338.22 Subd. 3. **Minnesota Learning Resource Center.** For a grant to A Chance to
 338.23 Grow for the Minnesota Learning Resource Center's comprehensive training program
 338.24 for education professionals charged with helping children in prekindergarten programs
 338.25 through grade 3 acquire basic reading and math skills:

338.26 \$ 300,000 2017

338.27 This is a onetime appropriation.

168.7 Subdivision 1. **Department of Education.** The sums indicated in this section are
 168.8 appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of education for the fiscal year
 168.9 designated.

168.10 Subd. 2. **St. Cloud preschool pilot program.** For a grant to Independent School
 168.11 District No. 742, St. Cloud, to establish a preschool pilot program targeting low-income
 168.12 students and English language learners.

168.13 \$ 430,000 2017

168.14 Funds appropriated in this section are to be used to create morning and afternoon
 168.15 preschool sections, serving at least 90 students from families with low income or
 168.16 from families where English is not the primary language spoken in the child's home
 168.17 environment. The funds appropriated under this section may be used to purchase
 168.18 developmentally appropriate furniture and materials, instructional materials, and
 168.19 curriculum materials; hire and train teachers and staff; and offset transportation costs.

168.20 Independent School District No. 742, St. Cloud, must submit an annual report by
 168.21 January 15 of 2017, 2018, and 2019, describing the activities undertaken and outcomes
 168.22 achieved with this grant. The 2019 report must contain recommendations for other
 168.23 districts interested in similar prekindergarten programs.

168.24 This is a onetime appropriation. The fiscal year 2017 appropriation is available
 168.25 until June 30, 2019.