

Subject English Learner Revenue; Indexing Revenue and Creating an Advisory Council

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Summary

School districts and charter schools receive English Learner (EL) revenue to provide instruction to students with limited English skills. Programs may include bilingual programs or English-as-a-second-language (ESL) programs. Bilingual education programs provide curriculum instruction to students in their native language. ESL program students are taught to read, write, listen, and speak in English. Under current law, about \$62 million is expected to be allocated through the EL formula for fiscal year 2023.

H.F. 1939 increases EL statewide revenue by the same percentage rate that the general education basic revenue allowance increases each year. This bill allocates the additional EL revenue as follows:

- 1) 25 percent of the increase in revenue is passed through directly to school districts;
- 2) 50 percent of the increase in revenue is for the Minnesota Department of Education to provide additional support and accountability for EL staff and programs; and
- 3) 25 percent is to create, maintain, and support an English Learner parent and community advisory council.

The bill also requires school districts to develop an EL plan and direct additional support to students with limited or interrupted education (SLIFE).