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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3492

02/19/2026 Authored by Duran, Kresha, Bakeberg, Zeleznikar and Mueller
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Education Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to education finance; authorizing the commissioner of education to award
1.3 school safety facility grants to schools to enhance safety for students and staff;
1.4 canceling funds from the Northern Lights Express; appropriating money.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. SCHOOL SAFETY FACILITY GRANTS.

1.7 Subdivision 1. School safety facility grants. (a) The commissioner of education may
1.8 award school safety facility grants to qualifying schools to enhance school safety for students
1.9 and staff.

1.10 (b) For purposes of this section, a qualifying school means a school operated by a school
1.11 district, charter school, cooperative unit defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 123A.24,
1.12 subdivision 2, Tribal contract school, or nonpublic school.

1.13 (c) A school safety facility grant must be used for school facility security improvements
1.14 authorized under section 126C.44, subdivision 4, paragraph (a), clause (7).

1.15 Subd. 2. Application. A qualifying school may apply for a school safety facility grant
1.16 in the form and manner specified by the commissioner of education. A qualifying school's
1.17 application must include information on the other sources of funding, if any, that will be
1.18 used to fully fund the school safety project.

1.19 Subd. 3. Grant awards. After consultation with the Department of Public Safety's
1.20 Minnesota School Safety Center, the commissioner of education may award a school safety
1.21 facility grant of no more than \$500,000 to each qualifying school. The commissioner must

2.1 prioritize grant applications. At least half of the grants must be awarded to schools with
2.2 administrative offices located outside of the seven-county metropolitan area.

2.3 Subd. 4. **Grant disbursal.** No money for construction may be distributed by the
2.4 commissioner of education to the grant recipient until bids have been received on 100 percent
2.5 of the construction documents and satisfactory documentation has been submitted to the
2.6 commissioner of education indicating the project can be fully completed with money available
2.7 for the project.

2.8 Subd. 5. **Appropriation.** (a) \$25,000,000 in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the
2.9 general fund to the Department of Education for school safety facility grants. This
2.10 appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

2.11 (b) \$25,000,000 of the appropriation in Laws 2023, chapter 68, article 1, section 2,
2.12 subdivision 2, paragraph (d), as amended by Laws 2025, First Special Session chapter 8,
2.13 article 1, section 13, for capital improvements and betterments for the Minneapolis-Duluth
2.14 Northern Lights Express intercity passenger rail project is canceled on the effective date of
2.15 this section.

2.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.