

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 3

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Version: As Introduced

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Subject: Elementary Class-size Reduction

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Overview

Minnesota's current class size reduction program is funded through a reserve of 6 percent of each district's basic general education revenue attributable to its elementary pupils. The current class size reduction program requires the reserved revenue to first be used to reduce kindergarten and first grade classes to a 17 to 1 ratio. The current law does not require a 17 to 1 ratio to be reached. Statewide, this funding amounts to roughly \$90 million per year.

H.F. 3 creates an additional source of funding for elementary class size reduction. This funding is available to school districts only if the class size ratios specified in statute are met.

H.F. 3 sets the revenue equal to \$600 per pupil for each kindergarten through grade 3 student in a classroom of 17 or fewer pupils for the full day. A school district that doesn't reduce class size for the entire day is eligible for \$300 per pupil for each student that receives instruction for at least one-half of the school day in a class size of 17 or fewer students.

Section

- 1 Class size reduction program.** Creates a new funding stream to supplement the state's existing class size reduction program.
Sets the funding equal to \$600 per kindergarten through grade 3 elementary student for each student in an elementary class size of 17 students or fewer. Allows a school district not able to reach the 17 to 1 ratio to receive \$300 per student for each student in a classroom of 17 or fewer students for at least one-half of the school day.
- 2 Appropriation.** Appropriates an unspecified amount to revenue for the class size reduction program.
- 3 Effective date.** Makes sections 1 and 2 effective for revenue for fiscal years 2000 and later.