

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Greiling and others

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Analyst: Tim Strom, 651-296-1886

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Overview

Training and experience (T&E) revenue partially compensates school districts that have teachers who have a substantial number of years of service to the school district and higher levels of educational attainment. T&E revenue was temporarily eliminated for the 1996-97 and 1997-98 school years. T&E revenue was partially restored for the 1998-99 school year and is phasing-out over time. Under its current structure, a school district's T&E revenue is limited to only those teachers who taught in the district during the 1996-97 school year. To calculate T&E revenue, the Department of Children, Families and Learning develops a matrix of steps and lanes and places each teacher in the district in the appropriate cell within the matrix. The salary of the teachers in each district in each cell is compared to the statewide average salary for all teachers.

Current law does not require the department to calculate the training and experience index using current year data. Additionally, national trends predict a substantial turnover in teacher workforce during the next several years, and many think this same level of teacher turnover will occur in Minnesota. Assuming a 5% annual drop in index numbers from 1997, this proposal will cost roughly \$40 million in FY 2000 and \$45 million in FY 2001.

- 1 Training and experience index.** Eliminates the phase-out of the training and experience index by requiring the training and experience index to be recalculated every other year based on the actual training and experience of the teachers in the district for the second previous year.
- 2 Effective date.** Makes section 1 effective for revenue for fiscal year 2000 and later.