

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Repealing and replacing the profile of learning

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Overview

Repeals the profile of learning effective for the 2003-2004 school year and later. Directs the commissioner of children, families and learning to consult with stakeholders in developing a proposal to present to the legislature by April 15, 2003, for statewide rigorous core academic standards in language arts and math. Requires the commissioner to present a plan for making a transition from the profile of learning to the proposed standards. Establishes a time line for the commissioner to present to the legislature subsequent proposals for rules implementing statewide rigorous core academic standards in science and history and geography. Establishes parameters for developing the academic standards. Directs the commissioner to use an expedited rule making process to adopt rules to implement the language arts and math standards that becomes effective April 30, 2003. Directs school districts and charter schools to continue to implement language arts and math standards consistent with state curriculum requirements if the legislature does not authorize the commissioner to adopt rules to implement language arts and math standards before the start of the 2003-2004 school year.

Section

- 1 Repealing profile of learning statutes and rules.** Prohibits the commissioner of children, families and learning from implementing the profile of learning portion of Minnesota's high school graduation rule.

Makes this section effective immediately and applicable to the 2003-2004 school year and later.

- 2 Replacing profile of learning statutes and rules.**

Subd. 1. Stakeholder advice on standards. Directs the commissioner to seek advice from at least the following specified stakeholders when developing a proposal to present to the legislature on statewide rigorous core academic standards in language arts, math, science, and history and geography: parents and the public; teachers and principals; school board and charter school board members; faculty teaching core subjects at post secondary institutions; and representatives of Minnesota's business community.

Subd. 2. Parameters for academic standards. Requires standards to (1) be based on knowledge in core academic areas, (2) be clear, concise, measurable and grade-level appropriate, (3) preserve and promote fundamental American principles, (4) not mandate a specific teaching methodology nor include work-based learning or other inconsistent content standards, and (5) be assessed using tests aligned with the state's academic standards.

Subd. 3. Commissioner to present proposed rules to the legislature. (a) Directs the commissioner to present to the legislature proposed rules for implementing statewide rigorous core academic standards according to a stated timeline: by April 15, 2003, proposed rules for language arts and math standards; a statewide plan to make the transition from the profile of learning to the standards proposed in this legislation; by March 1, 2004, proposed rules for science standards; and by March 1, 2005, proposed rules for history and geography standards.

(b) Requires all proposed rules to comply with this legislation.

(c) Requires school districts to incorporate the state graduation requirements into local graduation requirements by the 2007-2008 school year. Requires school districts that incorporate the state graduation requirements before the 2007-2008 school year to provide students who enter ninth grade by the 2004-2005 school year with the opportunity to graduate based on local graduation standards in effect when the students enter the ninth grade. Directs school districts that develop, implement or improve instruction or curriculum in response to this legislation to ensure participation by the community and parents.

Subd. 4. Rules implementing reading and math standards. Directs the commissioner to use an expedited rule making process when adopting rules for implementing language arts and math standards that remain in effect for two years under this process.

Makes subdivisions 1, 2 and 3 immediately effective and makes subdivision 4 effective April 30, 2003.

- 3 Interim alternative.** If the legislature does not authorize the commissioner to adopt rules to implement language arts and math standards before the start of the 2003-2004 school year, directs school districts and charter schools to continue to implement language arts and math standards consistent with the state's statutory curriculum requirements.

Makes this section effective immediately.