

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 451

DATE: February 27, 2003

Version: First Engrossment

Authors: Seagren and others

Subject: Establishing an alternative school district organization

Analyst: Lisa Larson, 651-296-8036

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

Allows a review committee to approve and submit to the legislature up to five proposals for specialized sponsoring organizations. Requires specialized sponsoring organizations to receive specific legislative authorization to proceed with a school or program. Requires at least one such organization to serve students in small rural school districts and at least one other such organization to serve students in urban settings. Expects such organizations to provide a framework for creating, supervising and supporting new learning environments and schools and for replicating successful models.

Section

1 Specialized sponsoring organization.

Subd. 1. Establishment. Allows a Minnesota organization, an independent, special, common or intermediate school district, a service cooperative, a public or private post secondary institution or at least two Minnesota residents to develop and submit a proposal for a specialized sponsoring organization to the proposal review committee under subdivision 4.

Subd. 2. Requirements. Requires a specialized sponsoring organization to: be a nonprofit organization; have a governing board of Minnesota residents; be located in Minnesota, with or without a geographic locus; provide a framework for creating, supervising and supporting new learning environments and schools and replicating successful models; contract with others to create and operate schools and programs;

Section

establish specialty areas; be nonsectarian; and charge no tuition.

Subd. 3. Proposals. (a) Requires a proposal for a specialized sponsoring organization to include its mission, governing and legal structure, budget and financing, and how the organization will meet the requirements under subdivision 2.

(b) Requires applicants to submit their proposals to the proposal review committee by October 15, 2003.

Subd. 4. Review committee; review of proposals. (a) Establishes an appointed six-member proposal review committee to review proposals.

(b) Allows the committee to approve and submit to the legislature up to five proposals for specialized sponsoring organizations. Requires a specialized sponsoring organization to receive specific legislative authorization to proceed with a school or program, consistent with the organization's proposal. Requires at least one specialized sponsoring organization to serve students in small rural school districts and at least one other such organization to serve students in urban settings.

(c) Requires the proposal review committee to complete its work and make recommendations to the legislature by June 30, 2004.

Makes this section effective immediately.