

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 451

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Version: As introduced

Authors: Seagren and others

Subject: Establishing an alternative school district organization

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Overview

Allows a proposal review committee to approve up to five specialized sponsoring organizations, where the specialty of at least one such organization is serving students in small rural school districts and the specialty of at least one other such organization is serving students in urban settings. Expects such organizations to provide a framework for creating, supervising and supporting new learning environments and schools and 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; have no geographic locus but be located in Minnesota; 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; 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 it

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 proposal review committee to approve up to five specialized sponsoring organizations, where the specialty of at least one such organization is serving students in small rural school districts and the specialty of at least one other such organization is serving 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.