## HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 476 DATE: April 3, 2003

**Version:** First Engrossment

**Authors:** Olson, M. and Others

**Subject:** Ensuring that students are able to learn about important historical documents

with religious content

**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

Ensures that students have access to historically important documents with religious content.

## Section

- American heritage education. (a) Directs school districts to adopt an instructional policy giving students the opportunity to learn about historical documents important to the country's development. Ensures that educators have access to historical documents with religious content. Lists examples of those documents.
  - (b) Precludes school districts from circumscribing instruction on national or state history that includes historical documents with religious content. Prohibits using instructional materials with religious content to establish religion.
  - (c) Allows students to voluntarily study a topic with religious content if other students are able to freely choose a study topic.

Makes this section immediately effective.

2 Title. Names section 1 the "American Heritage Education in Minnesota Public Schools Act."

Makes this section immediately effective.