

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Section

1 Education telecommunications fund.

Subd. 1. Fund established. Establishes the education telecommunications fund as an account in the state treasury.

Subd. 2. Access fee. Imposes a surcharge of 25 cents per month to each customer wireless or wireline for voice or data services.

Subd. 3. Learning network. Requires funds in the account to be used for the kindergarten through grade 12 schools and public library portions of the learning network of Minnesota. Specifies certain eligible expenditures.

Subd. 4. Minnesota education telecommunications council. Places the oversight of the network with the Minnesota education telecommunications council and requires the council to establish standards for interoperability and minimum bandwidth.

Subd. 5. E-rates. Requires each school and public library that receives telecommunications funds from the state to apply for discounted rates for schools and libraries for telecommunications services.

Subd. 6. Fiscal agent. Specifies that the department of children, families and learning is the fiscal agent for funding programs under this section and is not authorized to, nor responsible for, the management or operation of those programs.

Subd. 7. Administration. Authorizes the department of CFL to expend up to \$200,000 from the fund each fiscal year for the costs of administering this program.

Subd. 8. Appropriation. Appropriates money in the fund to the department of CFL

Section

for the purposes specified in this section.