

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Samuelson and others

Subject: Restoration of funding for the Early Childhood Family Education program

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Overview

Districts that provide community education programs may establish early childhood family education programs (ECFE) for children from birth to kindergarten, for their parents, and for expectant parents. These programs include parent education to promote children's learning and development. Districts must appoint an advisory council to assist in planning and implementing ECFE programs. Districts are encouraged to coordinate ECFE programs with their special education and vocational education programs, as well as with other public or nonprofit agencies providing similar services.

ECFE programs are funded through state aid, an equalized local levy, and participant fees. The formula for calculating ECFE revenue is based on the district's population of young children (under the age of five). The ECFE formula allowance was increased to \$120 beginning in FY 2002 and was subsequently reduced by the 2003 Legislature to \$96 beginning in FY 2005.

Section

- 1 Revenue.** Increases early childhood family education (ECFE) revenue from \$96 times the number of residents of the district under the age of five to \$120 times the number of residents under the age of five beginning in FY 2005.
- 2 Early childhood family education aid.** Increases the fiscal year 2005 appropriation by \$7.2 million to restore the pre-2005 funding level for ECFE.
- 3 Appropriations; ECFE.** Appropriates \$21 million per year for FY 06 and FY 07 to fund the ECFE program at the \$120 allowance level.

