

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

School districts operate a variety of community education programs. The programs include early learning programs such as ECFE, young-adult programs such as youth service programs, after school enrichment programs including sports and theater activities, and education programs for the community at large. Some school districts run community education services out of a district-owned school building.

This bill authorizes a levy to cover certain utility costs of community education programs at district-owned facilities. The total lease costs may not exceed the cost of the covered utilities or \$2 per square foot, whichever is less.

Section

1 Community education facility levy.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines terms including "qualifying facility" as a building owned by a school district that is used for the primary purpose of providing community education programs, and "utility costs" as the amounts spent on heating, cooling electricity, water and sewer charges, and trash costs.

Subd. 2. Commissioner's approval. Requires a school district wishing to levy under this section to submit to the commissioner of education any necessary information

Section

requested by the commissioner.

Subd. 3. Levy amount. Sets the annual levy equal to the lesser of the district's actual utility costs for the facility for the previous fiscal year, or \$2 per square foot of qualifying space.