

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 409

DATE: March 1, 2007

Version: As introduced

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Subject: Telecommunications Aid; School Districts and Regional Libraries

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Overview

Minnesota's school finance system supports certain ongoing telecommunications activities for school districts and regional library systems.

The school district funding is provided through a formula that reimburses a portion of each district's costs once those costs exceed \$15 per pupil unit. The overall appropriation for the program is capped so that the district aid amounts are prorated to match that cap.

For the 2006-07 biennium, the legislature appropriated about \$7.5 million for school district telecommunications/Internet access aid and \$2.5 million for regional library telecommunications aid. This bill roughly doubles the regional library telecommunications aid to \$2.3 million per year and more than doubles the school district telecommunications aid to \$8.75 million per year.

Section

- 1 Appropriations; telecommunications aid.** Sets the appropriations for school district telecommunications/Internet access aid at \$8.75 million per year and the appropriations for regional library telecommunications aid at \$2.3 million per year.