

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Elementary and middle school international baccalaureate pilot program

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Overview

Provides funding for a five-year pilot program in the South St. Paul school district to assess the benefits of implementing primary and intermediate-level international baccalaureate programs throughout the district and to measure the program's impact on student performance and academic achievement.

Section

1 Elementary and middle school years education international baccalaureate pilot program.

Subd. 1. Defines the terms commissioner, instructional year, international baccalaureate curriculum, pilot program, and school district (South St. Paul) for purposes of this section.

Subd. 2. Five-year program. Funds a five-year pilot program in a school district with an established international baccalaureate program to assess the benefits of implementing primary and intermediate-level international baccalaureate programs throughout the district and measure the program's impact on student performance and academic achievement.

Subd. 3. Pilot program plan. (a) Directs the school district to file a plan with the education commissioner for introducing elementary and middle school years international baccalaureate programs into the school district that describes the cost, schedule of preparatory activities, in-service training, curriculum and instructional

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materials, instructional goals, implementation process, learning outcomes, and program time line.

(b) Directs the commissioner to authorize payment of funds to the school district after the local school board and the commissioner approve the plan and budget.

(c) Requires funds made available under this section to be used only for the purposes of this section.

(d) Requires the pilot program to begin by the beginning of the 2007-2008 school year and to be completed by the end of the 2011-2012 school year.

Subd. 4. Reporting requirements. (a) Requires the participating school district annually to report to the commissioner and the public on the funds expended, the performance of participating students, and progress in accomplishing program goals.

(b) Directs the Education Department to assist in assessing the program upon its completion and to submit the assessment to the legislature.

2 Appropriation.

Subd. 1. Department of Education. Appropriates the indicated sums to the Education Department in the indicated fiscal years.

Subd. 2. Elementary and middle school years international baccalaureate pilot program. Appropriates \$750,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$400,000 in fiscal year 2009 for the international baccalaureate pilot program.