

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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### Overview

The special education program growth factors (inflation factors) were removed by action of the 2003 Legislature beginning with revenue for FY 2004. Since that time, the amount of state funding for the regular special education program has remained flat.

This bill reestablishes program growth factors (inflation factors) for the special education program and sets them at 5 percent for the regular special education formula and 10 percent for the excess cost special education formula. The bill also establishes a new funding source that reimburses up to 50 percent of a school district's salary costs for school personnel who are providing intensive intervention services to students.

This bill increases regular special education funding by \$27 million in FY 2008 and \$55 million in FY 2009, and increases excess cost special education funding by \$11 million in FY 2008 and by \$23 million for FY 2009.

### Section

- 1 Definitions; regular special education funding.** Reestablishes a program growth factor for regular special education funding. Sets the program growth factor at 5 percent per year.
- 2 Adjusted special education base revenue.** Adjusts a district's special education base revenue (which is based on two-year prior data) by the change in the number of students with an IEP as opposed to the change in the district's total enrollment between the base year

**Section**

and the current year.

**3 Definitions; excess cost special education funding.** Reestablishes a program growth factor for excess cost special education funding. Sets the program growth factor at 10 percent per year.

**4 Intensive intervention revenue.**

**Subd. 1. Intensive intervention programs goals.** States that the goal of this program is to provide intensive intervention services to students so that the future need for special education services for those students can be reduced or eliminated.

**Subd. 2. District eligibility.** Makes a district eligible for revenue if the district has adopted an intensive intervention program.

**Subd. 3. Intensive intervention program requirements.** Allows a school board to adopt an intensive intervention program. Requires the program to identify the barriers that, if unaddressed, might otherwise qualify a student for special education services.

**Subd. 4. Revenue.** Sets the revenue for early intervention services equal to 50 percent of the salary cost for personnel performing early intervention services.

**Subd. 5. Special education eligibility unaffected.** Clarifies that intensive intervention services provided under this section do not in any way affect a child's opportunity to receive special education services.