

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Bly and others

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Analyst: Danyell Punelli LeMire, 296-5058

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Overview

Establishes the teacher education and compensation helps (TEACH) program and appropriates money.

Section

1 Teacher education and compensation helps; Minnesota early childhood teacher retention programs. Creates § 136A.126.

Subd. 1. TEACH. Establishes the teacher education and compensation helps (TEACH) program to provide tuition scholarships, education incentives, and an early childhood teacher retention program. Requires the director of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education to transfer funds provided through a grant to a nonprofit organization licensed to administer TEACH.

Subd. 2. Program components. Paragraph (a) lists the activities for which the nonprofit organization must distribute funds, including tuition scholarships and education incentives.

Paragraph (b) lists the criteria applicants must meet in order to receive a scholarship. Gives higher priority to lower wage earners when awarding scholarships. Requires scholarship recipients to contribute 10 percent of the total scholarship and be sponsored by their employers, who must also contribute to the scholarship. Requires scholarship recipients who are self-employed to contribute 20 percent of the total scholarship.

Section

Paragraph (c) requires the organization to also distribute funds for teacher retention incentives. Lists the criteria applicants must meet in order to receive a retention incentive. Gives lower wage earners high consideration. Specifies on what the amount of the incentive must be based. Lists eligibility criteria providers must meet in order to be eligible for the retention incentive.

Subd. 3. Advisory committee. Requires TEACH and the Minnesota early childhood teacher retention programs to have an advisory board as prescribed by the national TEACH organization.

- 2 Appropriations.** Appropriates an unspecified amount in fiscal year 2008 from the general fund to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education for the TEACH and Minnesota early childhood teacher retention programs. Makes this appropriation part of the agency's base.