

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 894

DATE: February 21, 2007

Version: As introduced

Authors: Davnie and others

Subject: Head Start Program

Analyst: Danyell Punelli LeMire, 296-5058

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

This bill increases state appropriations for the Head Start program.

Head Start is primarily a federally funded program designed to provide a comprehensive family-oriented program that improves school readiness and social competence of children from low-income families. State funds were first appropriated for Head Start programs in fiscal year 1989.

Head Start funds do not flow to school districts but instead to the community organizations that are the grantees. In Minnesota, the most common type of grantee is a community action program.

Section

1 Appropriation; Head Start.

Subd. 1. Department of Education. Appropriates the sums indicated in this section from the general fund to the Department of Education for the fiscal years designated.

Subd. 2. Head Start. Appropriates \$19 million in each year of the 2008-09 biennium for Head Start programs. Allows up to 20 percent of the funds appropriated annually to be used to provide grants to local Head Start agencies to provide funds for innovating programs designed either to target Head Start resources at particular

Section

groups of at-risk children or to provide services in addition to those currently allowable under federal Head Start regulations. Requires the commissioner to award funds for innovative programs on a competitive basis. Specifies that this appropriation is in addition to the agency's base.