

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

Proposes to reduce state reporting requirements on home school students related to school attendance, other education records including testing, immunization records, driver's permits, and employment certificates.

Section

- 1** **Assessment of performance.** (a) Allows home school students to be tested using a nationally recognized college entrance exam.
(b) Strikes language requiring a parent to assess the performance of a home school student in subject areas (communications skills, math, science, social studies, health, and physical education) not covered in the national test administered to the student.
(c) Strikes language requiring a home school parent to obtain additional evaluation of a student whose performance on the national assessment is below the 30th percentile or one grade level below the performance level for children of the same age.
- 2** **Reporting.**
 - Subd. 1. Reports to superintendent.** (a) Requires a home school parent to provide the resident superintendent with specified information on a home school student only for the first school year in which the child receives instruction after age seven, within 15 days of withdrawing a school-age child from public school or moving out of the district, and by October 1 when moving into a new resident district.
(b) Requires a home school instructor to annually submit to the school superintendent by October 1 a letter of intent to continue to provide instruction and any change in information about a student submitted under paragraph (a).
(c) Allows the school superintendent to collect this information electronically but prohibits the superintendent from requiring home school instructors to transmit required information electronically.

Subd. 2. Availability of documentation. (a) Directs a parent to maintain documents, instead of making documents available indicating that a home school student is receiving required instruction and has been assessed.

(b) Directs the parent of a home school student who enrolls in public school to provide the enrolling school or school district with the student's score on standardized tests and other documents the enrolling school or district requires to determine the student's school placement and course requirements.

(c) Requires home school instructors to make the information required under this subdivision available to a county attorney when a case related to compulsory instruction (MS, section 120A.26, subd. 5) or child protection (MS, chapter 260C) is commenced, or when a case related to truancy (MS, chapter 260A) is diverted.

Subd. 3. Exemptions. Exempts accredited nonpublic schools from the requirement to maintain documents under subdivision 2.

Subd. 4. Reports to the state. Requires school superintendents to report annually by December 1 to the education commissioner on the number of home school children reported under subdivision 1.

Subd. 5. Obligations. States that nothing under this section removes the obligations related to compulsory instruction.

- 3 Report.** Strikes language requiring the school superintendent to keep annual immunization records of home school students.
- 4 Providing education materials and tests.** Does not require school districts to provide education materials and tests to nonpublic schools with fewer than 15 students.
- 5 Provided services.** Does not require school districts to provide guidance and counseling services to nonpublic schools with fewer than 15 students.
- 6 Persons less than 18 years of age.** (a) Allows the public safety commissioner to issue a driver's instruction permit to a home school student whose parent certifies the student's status on a form provided by the commissioner.
- (b) Allows the commissioner to request verification of the student's home school status from the school superintendent.
- 7 Offenses.** Allows the public safety department to revoke the instruction permit of a home school student who submits a false application.
- 8 Violations.** Allows the public safety department to revoke the instruction permit of a home school student who submits a false application.
- 9 When issued.** Allows a home school parent to issue an employment certificate for a 14 or 15 year old home school student who wishes to work on school days.
- 10 Repealer.** Repeals statutory provisions (Minnesota Statutes, section 120.26, subdivisions 1 and 2) allowing a school superintendent to make an onsite visit to a home school and allowing a home school parent to document the instruction the parent is providing to the

home school student as an alternative to the superintendent's visit.