

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Increasing Funding For School Extended Time Programs

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Overview

Some students participate in programs that allow the student to attend school for a time period longer than an ordinary school year. These programs are called learning year programs and may include extended day, extended week, summer school, or independent study programs. Many learning year programs are run by an Area Learning Center or ALC. During the 1990s, many school districts started using the learning year program as a method to fund summer school programs which had been eliminated as a categorical funding formula in 1989. The growth in learning year pupils was quite significant. As a result, the 2003 Legislature adopted a provision that limits a student's annual average daily membership (ADM) to 1.0 for all but the extended time funding formula.

Prior to fiscal year 2004, a student attending a learning year program could be counted in Minnesota's school funding formulas as more than one pupil in ADM. Since fiscal year 2004, a student may not be counted as more than 1.0 pupils in ADM except for purposes of extended time revenue. The current extended time revenue program allows a school district to count a student who participates in extended programming for up to an additional 0.2 students in ADM for the time the student spends in the learning year program. Extended time revenue equals the extended time pupil count times \$4,601 (the formula allowance from fiscal year 2005).

This bill links extended time revenue to the basic formula allowance of \$5,224 instead of a fixed formula of \$4,601, and increases the amount of extended time revenue earned by extended time students by funding participation up to 1.5 ADM.

Section

- 1** **Average daily membership.** Allows a student in a learning year program to be counted as up to 1.5 pupils in average daily membership for purposes of extended time revenue (current law limits the maximum pupil count to 1.2 pupils in average daily membership).

- 2** **Extended time revenue.** Links the extended time formula to the general education basic formula allowance (\$5,224). Under current law, the extended time pupil units are multiplied by \$4,601 (the basic allowance in effect during the 2005 school year).