

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

Clarifies use of reasonable force in the context of physical holding and seclusion for children with disabilities. Requires school districts to give the education commissioner summary data on district use of reasonable force in this context. Appropriates funding to the commissioner to help districts meet the needs of children with disabilities who have experienced a high use of prone restraints.

Section

1 Standards for restrictive procedures.

Subd. 1. Restrictive procedures plan. Requires school districts to inform the public about the district restrictive procedures plan including how schools will provide staff training on de-escalation techniques.

Subd. 2. Restrictive procedures. Makes a technical change.

Subd. 3. Physical holding or seclusion. Changes from March 1, 2014, to February 1, 2015, and later, the date by which stakeholders annually must recommend goals to the education commissioner for reducing the use of restrictive procedures and the commissioner must report to the legislature. Requires the summary data school districts report to the education department to include information about the use of reasonable force.

Subd. 6. Behavior supports. Strikes language on use of reasonable force related to positive behavior interventions and supports.

Section

Subd. 7. Reasonable force. Allows use of reasonable force, consistent with applicable statutory provisions. Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, requires school districts to collect and submit to the education commissioner summary data on district use of reasonable force that is consistent with the definition of physical holding or seclusion of a child with a disability under this section.

Makes this section immediately effective.

- 2 Appropriation.** Appropriates \$250,000 from the general fund in fiscal year 2015 to the education commissioner for purposes of helping school districts meet the needs of children with disabilities who have experienced a high use of prone restraints. Directs the commissioners of education and human services to discuss coordinating use of available funds and personnel.

Makes this section effective for fiscal year 2015.