— HOUSE RESEARCH — Bill Summary –

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Subject:	Adult Basic Education; Growth Factor Increased from two to three Percent
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Overview

Adult basic education (ABE) programs provide academic instruction to persons over age 16 who are not otherwise attending school, enabling them to obtain high school diplomas or equivalency certificates. The commissioner of education must approve a district or consortium's ABE program and may contract with private nonprofit organizations to provide these programs. A district or an organization offering an ABE program may charge a sliding fee to program participants.

The ABE formula is based on student-contact hours, population, the enrollment of students with limited English skills, and the number of adults age 20 or older with no diploma residing in a district or region. The ABE formula is subject to a statewide dollar cap. For fiscal year 2013, the cap is roughly \$46 million, and this cap annually is increased by the lesser of the growth in the number of student-contact hours provided in the previous ten years or the statutory growth factor. The 2011 Legislature lowered the statutory growth factor from three to two percent.

This bill increases the ABE growth factor from 1.02 to 1.03 for fiscal years 2014 and later.

Section

1 State total adult basic education aid. Increases the Adult Basic Education growth factor from 1.02 to 1.03 for fiscal years 2014 and later.