

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Additional Funding for Area Learning Center programs

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Overview

Area learning centers provide a variety of services to member school districts. Many area learning centers are offered by joint powers organizations such as cooperatives or intermediate school districts. Some area learning centers use a “fiscal host” model where one district assumes the role of the fiscal host and provides services to the participating districts according to an agreement. Cities of the first class may operate an area learning center on their own.

This bill creates a new form of state aid for area learning centers that are offered by cooperative organizations and sets the aid equal to the average per pupil referendum and local optional revenue for the members of that cooperative unit.

Section

- 1 Reserve revenue.** Increases the amount of revenue that a member school district must reserve for an area learning center program to include the amount of new revenue provided in section 2.
- 2 Additional revenue.** Creates additional revenue for area learning centers operated by an intermediate school district, education district, service cooperative, or other joint powers entity. Sets the revenue amount equal to the average referendum and local optional revenue for the districts of that cooperative.
- 3 Alternative attendance programs.** Requires the Department of Education to pay the new area learning center aid directly to the cooperative unit providing the area learning center program.

Section

- 4** **Appropriation; area learning center additional aid.** Appropriates an unspecified amount of aid in fiscal years 2016 and 2017 from the general fund to the commissioner of education for the new area learning center state aid.