

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Commissioner recommendations on terminating and withdrawing authorizers

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Overview

Directs the commissioner of education to consult with charter school and other education stakeholders in developing recommendations for the legislature on addressing circumstances where a charter school authorizer is terminated or withdraws as an authorizer, either unilaterally or through mutual consent.

Section

1 **Terminated and withdrawing authorizers; recommendations.** (a) Directs the education commissioner to submit recommendations to the legislature by February 15, 2016, to address circumstances where a charter school authorizer is terminated or withdraws as an authorizer, either unilaterally or through mutual consent, and how charter schools are closed and dissolved. Directs the commissioner to consider at least the following: how to operate a charter school if its authorizer is terminated or withdraws, and if an interim authorizer and contract are recommended, what entity may be an interim authorizer, what standards and approval process apply, what responsibilities an interim authorizer has, and the remaining obligations of the terminated or withdrawing authorizer; how a poorly performing charter school might be operated differently from other charter schools and how an interim or successor authorizer might intervene; what recourse exists with a poorly performing interim authorizer; whether a charter school must be closed and dissolved if no successor authorizer is available; and the role of the education department in these circumstances.

(b) Directs the education commissioner to consult with the Minnesota Association of Charter Schools, the Minnesota Association of Charter School Authorizers, Charter School Partners,

Section

the Minnesota Business Partnership, the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, and other interested education stakeholders in developing the recommendations.

Makes this section effective immediately.