

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

H.F. 3165 establishes a grant program for alternative teacher preparation programs that would be administered by the Office of Higher Education (OHE). Grant recipients could use the funds to pay for the costs of establishing and implementing an alternative teacher preparation program under Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.145. The bill appropriates \$1,500,000 in fiscal year 2017 to OHE for the program.

Section

1 Alternative teacher preparation grant program.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines “alternative teacher preparation program” as a teacher preparation program that is approved or seeking approval under section 122A.145, or an experimental program approved or seeking approval from the Board of Teaching.

Defines “diversity” as the inclusion of different types of people, including differences in race, ethnicity, gender, background, and origin of individuals.

Defines “highly selective” as accepting less than 25 percent of applicants.

Subd. 2. Establishment and eligibility. (a) Establishes a competitive grant program for alternative teacher preparation programs. Requires OHE to develop the form and method for applying.

(b) Requires the commissioner to develop criteria for allocating grants. Requires a grant recipient to:

Section

- (1) have a highly selective process for program participants;
- (2) seek to increase the diversity of Minnesota's teaching workforce;
- (3) be based on an established teacher preparation model grounded in peer-reviewed research; and
- (4) aim to place educators in hard-to-fill positions or hard-to-staff school settings.

Subd. 3. Use of grant. Requires a grant recipient to use grant funds for one of the following purposes:

- (1) Recruiting, selecting, and training teachers.
- (2) Professional development of teachers.
- (3) Regional management and operational support, development, and central services.
- (4) Leveraging nonstate money for purposes in clauses (1) to (3).
- (5) Expenses related to the applying for and establishing of alternative teacher preparation programs.

Subd. 4. Evaluation. Permits OHE to request a report from an alternative teacher preparation program to ensure compliance with the program requirements.

- 2 Appropriation.** Appropriates \$1,500,000 in fiscal year 2017 to OHE for the grant program established in section 1.