HOUSE RESEARCH =

Bill Summary

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- Subject: Teacher-powered school grants
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Overview

Appropriates \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 to the commissioner of education for grants for teacher-powered schools approved by the local school board and teacher bargaining unit.

Section

1 **Teacher-powered school grants.** (a) Defines three terms: defines "launch school" as a newly created school; defines "conversion school" as a school becoming a teacher-powered school by a teacher vote; and defines "teacher-powered school" as a teacher-governed school site.

(b) Directs the education commissioner, after receiving notice of a school board and the teacher bargaining unit approving a teacher-powered school, to award a one-year planning grant of up to \$150,000 and an annual start-up grant of up to \$100,000 for a conversion school and up to \$225,000 for a launch school.

(c) Allows the commissioner, after awarding 50 percent of grant funds, to prioritize awarding grants to applicants located in congressional districts where no grants have been made.

(d) Requires grant recipients to submit an annual budget to the commissioner, which also documents the approval of the school by the school board and the teacher bargaining unit.

(e) Requires grant recipients to submit an annual report beginning September 1, 2016, to the commissioner to be shared with the legislature on the success of teacher-powered schools, measured by parent satisfaction surveys and other relevant measures.

Section

2 Appropriation. Appropriates \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 from the general fund to the commissioner of education for grants to teacher-powered schools. Makes the base appropriation \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2018. Allows any first year balance to carry forward to the next fiscal year.