

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill increases funding by an unspecified amount for early learning scholarships and the Quality Improvement Rating System, appropriates money for pilot grants to providers of home visiting services, and modifies the early learning scholarship program by qualifying younger children who are homeless or in foster care for scholarships.

Section

- 1 Early learning scholarships.** Grants priority and authorizes early learning scholarships for young children if the child is in foster care or otherwise in need of protective services, or the child's family has experienced homelessness (currently scholarships are generally limited to children who are three or four years of age).
Allows the commissioner of education to award a scholarship in an amount higher than the amount based on the child care market rate survey to a homeless child or a child in foster care or otherwise in need of protective services.
- 2 Early learning scholarships; appropriation.** Increases the appropriation for the early learning scholarship program for fiscal years 2017 and later by an unspecified amount.
- 3 Quality Improvement Rating System; appropriation.** Increases the appropriation for the Quality Rating and Improvement System for fiscal years 2017 and later by an unspecified amount to provide additional resources for parent aware ratings.

Section

- 4** **Targeted home visiting; appropriation.** Appropriates funding for targeted home visiting programs to supplement funding in last year's omnibus human services bill. Authorizes the commissioner to award at least five pilot grants to home visiting programs in both greater Minnesota and the metro area.