HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Legislative task force to review OLA report on K-12 teacher licensing

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Overview

Establishes a 12-member legislative task force composed of legislators from the Minnesota House and Senate and both parties to review the 2016 Legislative Auditor's report on Minnesota's teacher licensure system and make recommendations to the legislature on restructuring that system. Directs the task force to recommend how to restructure Minnesota's teacher licensure system by consolidating all teacher licensure activities into a single state entity or at least to clarify existing teacher licensure responsibilities to ensure transparency and consistency within the teacher licensure system. Directs the task force to also consider a tiered licensure system recommended in the OLA report.

Section

1 Legislative task force on kindergarten through grade 12 teacher licensure. (a)

Establishes a 12-member legislative task force to review the 2016 OLA report on teacher licensing and to report to the legislature by 2/1/17 recommending how to: restructure Minnesota's teacher licensure system by consolidating all teacher licensure activities into a single state entity or at least clarify existing teacher licensure responsibilities. Directs the task force to also consider a tiered licensure system recommended in the report. Directs the task force to identify and include in its report any statutory changes needed to implement its recommendations.

(b) Includes on the task force six currently serving senators, three appointed by the senate majority leader and three appointed by the senate minority leader, and six currently serving house members, three appointed by the house speaker and three appointed by the house minority leader. Allows only currently serving legislators to be members of the task force.

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Section

- (c) Requires appointments to be made by 1/1/16 and to expire on 2/1/17. Directs the leader of the caucus in the affected body to which a vacating task force member belonged to fill any vacancy that occurs. Requires a house member of the task force to convene the first meeting. Directs the task force to meet periodically. Directs the Legislative Coordinating Commission to provide technical and administrative assistance upon request.
- (d) Directs the task force to consult with a list of specified stakeholders when reviewing the OLA report and developing recommendations.
- (e) Causes the study group to expire on 7/2/17 unless extended by law.

Makes this section immediately effective.