

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 3233
Version: As introduced

DATE: March 30, 2016

Authors: Pierson

Subject: Teacher Training; Concurrent Enrollment Courses

Analyst: Tim Strom

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd/.

Overview

Minnesota's dual enrollment programs, programs that allow a student to receive high school and college course credit for the same class, have evolved over the last 30 years since the postsecondary enrollment options (PSEO) program was first passed by the legislature in 1985. One common form of the program is referred to as courses according to agreement, or concurrent enrollment.

Under the concurrent enrollment program, the school district and the postsecondary institution (PSI) enter into a contract for services for a dual enrollment course. Current law appropriates \$4 million per year to help defray costs associated with concurrent enrollment program.

Instructors in concurrent enrollment programs are most often high school teachers specially trained by the sponsoring PSI to teach the course according to the standards established by the PSI. In the past year, a number of questions have been raised about whether the body that accredits colleges and universities in Minnesota may require high school teachers teaching concurrent enrollment classes under the direction of the PSI to hold, at minimum, a master's degree in the field in which the instructors are teaching.

This bill appropriates an unspecified amount of money in fiscal years 2017 and 2018 to reimburse teachers for additional graduate level credits in the relevant concurrent enrollment subject areas.

Section

- 1** **Teacher training aid.** Expands concurrent enrollment aid to include funds for teacher training. Authorizes the commissioner of education to establish a grant program to reimburse teachers in need of additional credits for up to 18 credits of graduate instruction.

- 2** **Appropriation.** Appropriates an unspecified amount of money in fiscal years 2017 and 2018 for concurrent enrollment teacher training under section 1.