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### Section

- 1**      **Statewide school-based sealant grant program.** Adds § 144.0615. Paragraph (a) directs the commissioner of health to develop a statewide, coordinated dental sealant program to improve access to dental services for school-age children, with a focus on identifying public schools with students ages six to nine who are in the greatest need of preventive dental services.

Paragraph (b) directs the commissioner to award grants to nonprofit organizations to provide the dental sealant programs.

Paragraph (c) requires the commissioner to submit a report, by March 15, 2018, to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees governing health care describing the implementation plan and the extent to which the program improved access to sealants for school-age children ages 6 to 9.
- 2**      **Early dental prevention pilot program.** Paragraph (a) directs the commissioner of health to develop and implement a pilot program to increase awareness and encourage early preventive dental interventions for infants and toddlers. Under this program, the commissioner shall award grants to five communities of color or recent immigrant communities to participate in the program.

Paragraph (b) requires the commissioner to distribute educational materials to expectant and new parents in designated communities of color and recent immigrant communities on the importance of early dental care.

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Paragraph (c) requires the commissioner to work with and assist communities of color and recent immigrant communities in performing certain work under this program.

Paragraph (d) directs the commissioner to develop measurable outcomes for the program and evaluate the program's performance within each community.

Paragraph (e) requires the commissioner to provide a report on the program, by March 15, 2019, to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over health care.

- 3**      **Appropriation.** Makes blank appropriations in fiscal year 2018 from the general fund to the commissioner of health for the statewide, school-based sealant program and the early dental prevention pilot program.