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The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), signed into law in December 2015, reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, which had been last reauthorized in 2002 as No Child Left Behind. ESSA requires each state to submit plans to the U.S. Department of Education outlining the state's strategy to implement ESSA's requirements for assessments, accountability, and supports. A state agency that submits an ESSA plan is required to develop the plan with "timely and meaningful consultation with the Governor, members of the State Legislature" and other stakeholders. States can submit the plan to the federal government either in April or September of 2017. The Minnesota Department of Education has announced that it will submit its plan in September 2017. The U.S. Department of Education will conduct a peer review process of the submitted state plans.

This bill requires the commissioner of education to submit the Minnesota ESSA plan to the legislature before submitting it to the U.S. Department of Education and prevents the commissioner of education from implementing the state plan before the legislature has approved it.