

Subject Special Education Aid and Adjustment; Duluth School District

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Overview

Local school districts are required by state law to provide appropriate and necessary special education to children with disabilities from birth through 21 years of age. School districts receive state aid and a relatively small amount of federal aid to pay for special education services. If these funds are insufficient to pay for the costs of the programs, school districts must use other general fund revenue.

Minnesota's special education formula is a multistep formula. The formula combines a cost-reimbursement formula with a modified "census style" of funding, provides a floor of funding based on fiscal year 2016 funding amounts, and authorizes serving school districts and charter schools to bill a portion of their unfunded special education costs attributable to nonresident students back to the student's resident school district.

H.F. 683 adjusts the fiscal year 2016 base year used to calculate special education revenue for Independent School District No. 709, Duluth. The bill also appropriates an additional \$1 million per year of special education funding for the Duluth school district.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | Special education fiscal year 2016 base adjustment; Duluth.
Requires the commissioner of education to increase the fiscal year 2016 base for the Duluth school district by \$500,000 (this higher base level plays into future calculations of special education aid for the Duluth school district). Applies the higher base amount for fiscal years 2022 and later. |
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Section	Description
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2	<p>Appropriation; supplemental special education aid.</p> <p>Appropriates an additional \$1,000,000 per year from the general fund to the commissioner of education for additional special education payments to Independent School District No. 709, Duluth.</p>
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