MN HOUSE RESEARCH

Subject	Computer Science Education
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Overview

In 2023, the legislature enacted Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.241, which established a computer science education advancement program. The statute established a computer science education supervisor position at the Department of Education, a computer science education working group to develop a computer science state strategic plan, and a grant for educator training and recruitment. It also required teacher preparation programs to include as part of the curriculum instruction in computer science, required the Department of Education to report data, and authorized the department and the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board to adopt rules. The working group's strategic plan is posted on the department website for public review and comment.

This bill modifies section 120B.241 by adding defined terms, modifying the educator training and recruitment grant, and adding a report on progress on the state strategic plan. It also establishes a grant program to expand existing computer science education programs, and appropriates funding for the teacher training and recruitment grant and the program expansion grant, in addition to funding for the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board to establish a field license in computer science.

Summary

Section	Description
1	**Definitions. [Computer science education advancement program]** Defines the terms "subgroups underrepresented in computer science" and "teacher."

Section	Description

2   **Computer science educator training and capacity grant. [Computer science education advancement program]**

Modifies application requirements and reporting related to the grant program for computer science teacher training and recruitment.

3   **State report. [Computer science education advancement program]**

Requires the department to report annually to the legislature on progress on the adopted state strategic plan.

4   **Grants to expand existing computer science education programs.**

Establishes a grant program to expand existing high-quality computer science education programs. Eligible recipients include school districts, charter schools, institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, and others. Eligible uses include design of computer science courses to increase enrollment of underrepresented student subgroups, recruiting, program administration, and program promotion. Requires grant application to include specific components, and requires the department to prioritize certain applications. Requires a grant recipient to report to the department.

5   **Appropriation; Department of education.**

Appropriates $4,000,000 for computer science education teacher training and recruitment and $4,000,000 for computer science program expansion in fiscal year 2025.

6   **Appropriation; Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board.**

Appropriates $50,000 for the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board to establish a field license in computer science.