

Subject School-linked behavioral health grants

Authors Bierman and others

Analyst Sarah Sunderman

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Summary

School-linked behavioral health grants (formerly school-linked mental health grants), under section 245.4901, provide funding for community-based mental health and substance use disorder treatment providers to provide behavioral health services to students in schools or connect students with services.

This bill appropriates money in fiscal years 2024 and 2025 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for school-linked behavioral health grants, and specifies that the amount is added to the base. The bill requires that at least 25% of the additional funding be targeted to providers that are able to serve schools with the highest percentages of special education students with emotional and behavioral disorders, or high poverty. The bill also requires the commissioner to ensure that grants are distributed to rural and urban counties, and to consult with school districts that have not yet benefitted from these grants, but that want to collaborate with a community-based mental health provider.