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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 4817

03/11/2024 Authored by Berg
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Education Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to education finance; reserving student support personnel aid; transferring
1.3 the student support personnel; amending Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement,
1.4 section 124D.901, subdivisions 3, 5, by adding a subdivision; Laws 2023, chapter
1.5 55, article 5, section 64, subdivision 15.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 124D.901, subdivision 3, is
1.8 amended to read:

1.9 Subd. 3. Student support personnel aid. (a) The initial student support personnel aid
1.10 for a school district equals the greater of the student support personnel allowance times the
1.11 adjusted pupil units at the district for the current fiscal year or \$40,000. The initial student
1.12 support personnel aid for a charter school equals the greater of the student support personnel
1.13 allowance times the adjusted pupil units at the charter school for the current fiscal year or
1.14 \$20,000.

1.15 (b) The cooperative student support personnel aid for a school district that is a member
1.16 of an intermediate school district or other cooperative unit that serves students equals the
1.17 greater of the cooperative student support allowance times the adjusted pupil units at the
1.18 district for the current fiscal year or \$40,000. If a district is a member of more than one
1.19 cooperative unit that serves students, the revenue must be allocated among the cooperative
1.20 units.

1.21 (c) The student support personnel allowance equals \$11.94 for fiscal year 2024, \$17.08
1.22 for fiscal year 2025, and \$48.73 for fiscal year 2026 and later.

2.1 (d) The cooperative student support allowance equals \$0.60 for fiscal year 2024, \$0.85
 2.2 for fiscal year 2025, and \$2.44 for fiscal year 2026 and later.

2.3 ~~(e) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b), the student support personnel aid must not~~
 2.4 ~~exceed the district's, charter school's, or cooperative unit's actual expenditures.~~

2.5 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 124D.901, is amended by adding a
 2.6 subdivision to read:

2.7 Subd. 3a. Reserve account. (a) Student support personnel aid must be placed in a reserve
 2.8 account and may only be used for the purposes and uses specified in this section.

2.9 (b) For fiscal year 2026 and later, the June 30 balance in the student support personnel
 2.10 reserve account must not exceed \$10 per pupil unit.

2.11 (c) For fiscal year 2027 and later, a district or charter school's student support personnel
 2.12 aid for the current year is reduced by the amount that the fund balance for June 30 of the
 2.13 previous year exceeds \$10 times the adjusted pupil units for that year.

2.14 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 124D.901, subdivision 5, is amended
 2.15 to read:

2.16 **Subd. 5. Report required. (a)** By February 1 following any fiscal year in which student
 2.17 support personnel aid was received, a school district, charter school, or cooperative unit
 2.18 must submit a written report to the commissioner describing the school's student support
 2.19 personnel revenue and expenditures and indicating how the new position affected two or
 2.20 more of the following measures:

2.21 (1) school climate;

2.22 (2) student health;

2.23 (3) attendance rates;

2.24 (4) academic achievement;

2.25 (5) career and college readiness; and

2.26 (6) postsecondary completion rates.

2.27 (b) By March 30 of each year, the Department of Education must submit a report to the
 2.28 chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over
 2.29 kindergarten through grade 12 education summarizing the information reported by schools

3.1 under paragraph (a). The report must also identify any barriers limiting expansion of student
3.2 support personnel services. The report must be prepared according to section 3.195.

3.3 Sec. 4. Laws 2023, chapter 55, article 5, section 64, subdivision 15, is amended to read:

3.4 Subd. 15. **Student support personnel workforce pipeline.** (a) For a grant program to
3.5 develop a student support personnel workforce pipeline focused on increasing school
3.6 psychologists, school nurses, school counselors, and school social workers of color and
3.7 Indigenous providers, professional respecialization, recruitment, and retention:

3.8 \$ 5,000,000 2024

3.9 \$ 5,000,000 2025

3.10 (b) Of the amount in paragraph (a), \$150,000 is each year must be retained by the
3.11 Department of Education for providing support to school nurses across the state. As of July
3.12 1, 2024, any remaining balance in fiscal year 2024 and \$4,850,000 in fiscal year 2025 must
3.13 be transferred to the Office of Higher Education to administer the student support personnel
3.14 workforce grant. The Office of Higher Education and the Department of Education must
3.15 coordinate the transfer of the administration of any existing grants made during fiscal year
3.16 2024.

3.17 (c) To the extent practicable, the pipeline grants must be used to support equal numbers
3.18 of students pursuing careers as school psychologists, school nurses, school counselors, and
3.19 school social workers.

3.20 (d) For grants awarded under this subdivision to school psychologists, the following
3.21 terms have the meanings given:

3.22 (1) "eligible designated trainee" means an individual enrolled in a NASP-approved or
3.23 APA-accredited school psychology program granting educational specialist certificates or
3.24 doctoral degrees in school psychology;

3.25 (2) "practica" means an educational experience administered and evaluated by the
3.26 graduate training program, with university and site supervision by appropriately credentialed
3.27 school psychologists, to develop trainees' competencies to provide school psychological
3.28 services based on the graduate program's goals and competencies relative to accreditation
3.29 and licensure requirements; and

3.30 (3) "eligible employment" means a paid position within a school or local education
3.31 agency directly related to the training program providing direct or indirect school psychology
3.32 services. Direct services include assessment, intervention, prevention, or consultation services
3.33 to students or their family members and educational staff. Indirect services include

4.1 supervision, research and evaluation, administration, program development, technical
4.2 assistance, or professional learning to support direct services.

4.3 (e) Grants awarded to school psychologists must be used for:

4.4 (1) the provision of paid, supervised, and educationally meaningful practica in a public
4.5 school setting for an eligible designated trainee enrolled in a qualifying program within the
4.6 grantee's institution;

4.7 (2) to support student recruitment and retention to enroll and hire an eligible designated
4.8 trainee for paid practica in public school settings; and

4.9 (3) oversight of trainee practica and professional development by the qualifying institution
4.10 to ensure the qualifications and conduct by an eligible designated trainee meet requirements
4.11 set forth by the state and accrediting agencies.

4.12 (f) Upon successful completion of the graduate training program, grants awarded to
4.13 school psychologists must maintain eligible employment within Minnesota for a minimum
4.14 period of one-year full-time equivalent for each academic year of paid traineeship under
4.15 the grant program.

4.16 (g) Up to \$150,000 of the appropriation is available for grant administration.

4.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.