

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION**

S.F. No. 4449

(SENATE AUTHORS: ABELER, Pappas, Dibble, Marty and Hoffman)

DATE
03/17/2026

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6736

Introduction and first reading
Referred to Health and Human Services

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to children, youth, and families; appropriating money for Rally to Read.
1.3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.4 Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; MINNESOTA'S RALLY TO READ.**

1.5 Subdivision 1. Department of Children, Youth, and Families. The sum indicated in
1.6 this section is appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Children, Youth,
1.7 and Families in the fiscal year designated.

1.8 Subd. 2. Rally to Read. (a) For a grant to Minnesota's Rally to Read:

1.9 § 250,000 2026

1.10 (b) Grant money must be used to support community reading coalitions throughout the
1.11 state that work toward making Minnesota the state with the highest reading proficiency
1.12 scores and the fewest inequities, with a focus on optimizing every child's brain development
1.13 during the crucial years of prenatal to age three. Appropriate uses of grant money may
1.14 include but are not limited to staffing to coordinate statewide implementation, community
1.15 reading coalition facilitation, meeting expenses, data tracking, benchmark dashboard
1.16 monitoring, and evaluation.

1.17 (c) Rally to Read must implement a targeted strategy to prioritize delivering literacy
1.18 resources to the children who need it the most. The community reading coalitions must
1.19 build on existing programs that have a proven track record of delivering results that benefit
1.20 children to ensure children are prepared to read by age three and are able to read proficiently
1.21 at every grade level.

- 2.1 (d) Each dollar of grant money received must be matched with private money.
- 2.2 (e) This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2028.