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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 4894

03/13/2024 Authored by Virnig
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Education Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to education; creating a School Health Advisory Committee; requiring
1.3 reports.

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

1.5 Section 1. SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

1.6 Subdivision 1. School Health Advisory Committee established. A School Health
1.7 Advisory Committee is established to advise the governor and legislature on policies and
1.8 practices related to school health.

1.9 Subd. 2. Duties. (a) The advisory committee must review and recommend to the governor,
1.10 legislature, and state agencies policies and programs that:

1.11 (1) are effective in safeguarding and promoting the health of children at school;

1.12 (2) prevent or remediate health barriers to learning;

1.13 (3) include accurate health status appraisals and documentation of the needs of children;

1.14 (4) include evidence-based school nursing services and health services provided by
1.15 professional school nurses and unlicensed assistive personnel; and

1.16 (5) align with the standards of practice for school nursing practice.

1.17 (b) The advisory committee must identify essential student health data to collect and
1.18 report annually the health needs of Minnesota children in schools, including but not limited
1.19 to the health needs of students with special needs or health conditions and students with
1.20 barriers to learning. The advisory committee must identify inefficient or ineffective health
1.21 or educational practices and recommend remediation.

2.1 (c) The advisory committee must establish a safe, effective, and coordinated model of
2.2 school services for children with chronic and acute health conditions, including but not
2.3 limited to asthma, diabetes, severe allergic reactions, and epilepsy, that facilitates a sustained
2.4 school environment and protects the health of children while supporting their academic
2.5 achievement.

2.6 (d) The advisory committee must establish a model of school services that facilitates
2.7 coordinated care between medical and health care systems and schools, including timely
2.8 communication of a child's health status and the impact of health status on learning and
2.9 other educational challenges.

2.10 (e) The advisory committee must recommend funding streams for school health services,
2.11 including public funding such as medical assistance reimbursement, private insurers, universal
2.12 health care funding, and community prevention initiatives.

2.13 Subd. 3. **Membership.** (a) Members of the advisory committee must be appointed by
2.14 the governor for terms of two years. Members must be appointed by September 1, 2024.

2.15 (b) Appointed members must represent the following:

2.16 (1) three registered nurses or licensed school nurses;

2.17 (2) one public health nurse serving in a school;

2.18 (3) one pediatrician;

2.19 (4) one family practice physician;

2.20 (5) one pediatric nurse practitioner;

2.21 (6) one health care provider specialized in chronic or complex health conditions;

2.22 (7) one child or adolescent mental health practitioner;

2.23 (8) one student services educator, school psychologist, school social worker, school
2.24 counselor, or school chemical health specialist;

2.25 (9) one school board member;

2.26 (10) one school administrator;

2.27 (11) one special education administrator;

2.28 (12) two parents of different children with special health care needs;

2.29 (13) one representative of the Minnesota Board of Nursing;

2.30 (14) one administrator from the Department of Education;

3.1 (15) one administrator from the Department of Health; and

3.2 (16) four legislators, two members of the house of representatives and two members of
3.3 the senate.

3.4 Subd. 4. **Meetings and reporting.** The advisory committee must meet monthly for the
3.5 first year and at least quarterly thereafter. By January 15 of each year, the advisory committee
3.6 must report to the governor's office and the legislative committees with jurisdiction over
3.7 health and kindergarten through grade 12 on their guidance for policies and practices related
3.8 to school health.

3.9 Subd. 5. **Administration.** The advisory committee must be administratively supported
3.10 by the Departments of Education and Health with assistance from the Board of Nursing.