

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETIETH SESSION**

S.F. No. 953

(SENATE AUTHORS: NELSON)

DATE
02/15/2017

D-PG
600 Introduction and first reading
Referred to E-12 Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to education; amending the term general education development; amending
1.3 Minnesota Statutes 2016, sections 124D.549; 124D.55; 256J.08, subdivisions 38,
1.4 39.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 124D.549, is amended to read:

1.7 **124D.549 ~~GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (GED) TESTS~~**
1.8 **COMMISSIONER-SELECTED HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY TEST RULES;**
1.9 **COMMISSIONER.**

1.10 The commissioner may amend rules to reflect changes in the national minimum standard
1.11 score for passing the ~~general education development (GED) tests~~ commissioner-selected
1.12 high school equivalency test. The commissioner, in consultation with adult basic education
1.13 stakeholders, must select the high school equivalency test.

1.14 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 124D.55, is amended to read:

1.15 **124D.55 ~~GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (GED)~~**
1.16 **COMMISSIONER-SELECTED HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY TEST FEES.**

1.17 The commissioner shall pay 60 percent of the fee that is charged to an eligible individual
1.18 for the full battery of ~~general education development (GED)~~ the commissioner-selected
1.19 high school equivalency tests, but not more than \$40 for an eligible individual.

1.20 For fiscal year 2017 only, the commissioner shall pay 100 percent of the fee charged to
1.21 an eligible individual for the full battery of ~~general education development (GED)~~ the

2.1 commissioner-selected high school equivalency tests, but not more than the cost of one full
2.2 battery of tests per year for any individual.

2.3 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 256J.08, subdivision 38, is amended to read:

2.4 Subd. 38. **Full-time student.** "Full-time student" means a person who is enrolled in a
2.5 graded or ungraded primary, intermediate, secondary, ~~GED~~ commissioner-selected high
2.6 school equivalency preparatory, trade, technical, vocational, or postsecondary school, and
2.7 who meets the school's standard for full-time attendance.

2.8 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 256J.08, subdivision 39, is amended to read:

2.9 Subd. 39. ~~General educational development or GED~~ Commissioner-selected high
2.10 school equivalency. "~~General educational development~~" or "~~GED~~" "Commissioner-selected
2.11 high school equivalency" means the ~~general educational development~~ high school
2.12 equivalency certification issued by the commissioner of education as an equivalent to a
2.13 secondary school diploma under Minnesota Rules, part 3500.3100, subpart 4.

2.14 Sec. 5. REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.

2.15 In Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules, the revisor of statutes shall substitute the
2.16 term "commissioner-selected high school equivalency" or similar term for "general education
2.17 development," "GED," or similar terms for wherever the term refers to the tests or programs
2.18 leading to a certification issued by the commissioner of education as an equivalency to a
2.19 secondary diploma.