84.976 NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE; GRANT PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The commissioner of natural resources must establish and administer a program to provide grants for outdoor environmental, ecological, and other natural-resource-based education and recreation programs serving youth.

Subd. 2. **Eligibility.** The commissioner may award grants under this section to public entities or private nonprofit organizations.

Subd. 3. **Priorities.** In awarding grants under this section, the commissioner must give priority to programs that:

(1) provide students with opportunities to directly experience and understand nature and the natural world;

(2) use a research-based, effective environmental, ecological, agricultural, or other natural-resource-based educational curriculum;

(3) maximize the number of participants that can be served;

(4) serve children with limited opportunities to participate in natural-resource-based outdoor activities;

(5) use public park and other natural resource venues and personnel as a resource; and

(6) commit matching funds or in-kind resources.

History: *1Sp2019 c 4 art 3 s 23*