



## **Laws 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 10 – Omnibus E-12 Education (H.F. No. 5)**

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This is the omnibus E-12 education finance and policy act. The fiscal tracking documents and other information for this act are posted at <https://www.senate.mn/tracking/2025>.

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### **ARTICLE 1 GENERAL EDUCATION**

**Section 1. Legitimate exceptions.** Provides that an application to excuse a child from school attendance may be made to a truant officer or other school official designated by the principal. Removes other school officials from the set of people who may receive such applications.

**Sec. 2. Reporting attendance.** Requires that a school district must count a student as in attendance on each day the student receives supervision, instruction, or services from school staff during scheduled school hours. Clarifies that a district must continue to comply with pupil reporting requirements. Requires the school principal to issue and keep records of attendance.

**Sec. 3. Reports to the state or county.** Requires the school principal to report to the superintendent information about students who are unexpectedly not re-enrolled in the school for the current term. Requires the superintendent to immediately make such information available to applicable county representatives. Requires a district to notify the local welfare agency of any student dropped from the school's roll for unexcused absences exceeding 15 consecutive school days. Requires the district to make contact with the student's family to encourage the student to reenroll. Requires the local welfare agency to notify the school if the agency is unable to contact the student or student's family and requires the district to notify the department of education that the student has been dropped from the school's roll and that the local welfare agency is unable to contact the student or student's family.

**Sec. 4. Attendance provisions coded elsewhere.** Provides informational cross-references to various laws related to student attendance.

**Sec. 5. [Consolidation transition] aid.** Increases the consolidation transition aid for newly created consolidated school districts. Strikes other obsolete language.

**Sec. 6. Dissolution; referendum revenue.** Clarifies that both voter-approved and board-approved referendum allowances may be recalculated or discontinued under the existing reorganization procedures in cases of school district dissolution or consolidation.

**Sec. 7. Consolidation; maximum authorized referendum revenues.** Provides that the referendum authority recalculated for a consolidated school district upon its consolidation may be renewed by the school board of the newly created district under 126C.17, subdivision 9b. Effective retroactively from June 16, 2024, and applies to school board renewal resolutions adopted on or after that date.

**Sec. 8. Alternative method.** Provides that the referendum authority adopted in the consolidation plan for a consolidated school district may be renewed by the school board of the newly created district under 126C.17, subdivision 9b. Effective retroactively from June 16, 2024, and applies to school board renewal resolutions adopted on or after that date.

**Sec. 9. Discontinued referendum revenue.** Clarifies that a consolidation plan may provide for discontinuation of referendum revenue that was previously approved by the voters or authorized by the school board under its renewal authority.

**Sec. 10. [PSEO] authorization; notification.** Clarifies that students enrolled in charter schools or Tribal contract schools are eligible to participate in PSEO programs. Requires a postsecondary institution to notify a pupil's school if the pupil withdraws from a course or stops attending a course that the student is taking for postsecondary credit.

**Sec. 11. [PSEO] authorization; career or technical education.** Clarifies that students enrolled in charter schools or Tribal contract schools are eligible to participate in PSEO programs.

**Sec. 12. [PSEO] authorization; 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade pupil.** Clarifies that students enrolled in charter schools or Tribal contract schools are eligible to participate in PSEO programs.

**Sec. 13. [PSEO] enrollment priority.** Strikes obsolete language about limits on the information that postsecondary institutions may share with high school students. (The additional authority provided under the language expired after the 2019-2020 school year.)

**Sec. 14. [PSEO] courses according to agreements.** Clarifies that students enrolled in charter schools or Tribal contract schools are eligible to participate in PSEO programs.

**Sec. 15. Definitions [for the Online Instruction Act].** Clarifies that the Online Instruction Act is applicable to charter schools and is not applicable to nonpublic schools. Provides that

state-operated schools are eligible supplemental online course providers under the Online Instruction Act.

**Sec. 16. Revenue calculation [for a charter school].** Increases general education revenue for a charter school by \$132 per adjusted pupil unit (APU). (The revenue increase under this section is equal to the revenue reduction for charter schools under the long-term facility maintenance (LTFM) proposal later in this act.) Effective for revenue for fiscal year 2026 and later.

**Sec. 17. Compensation revenue pupil units.** Provides that the pupil units used to calculate fiscal year 2026 compensatory aid for each building in a district equals the greater of the building's fiscal year 2026 (Fall 2024) pupil unit count or its fiscal year 2024 (Fall 2022) pupil unit count. Students identified by direct certification or by an application for educational benefits would be included in the fiscal year 2026 calculation.

**Sec. 18. Compensatory education revenue.** Delays the transition to the new compensatory formula enacted in Laws 2023, chapter 55, until fiscal year 2027.

**Sec. 19. Statewide compensatory allowance.** Delays the transition to the new compensatory formula enacted in Laws 2023, chapter 55, until fiscal year 2027. (The allowance indicated for fiscal year 2027 is the amount projected under current law under the February 2025 budget forecast.)

**Sec. 20. Building allocation [of compensatory revenue].** Authorizes a school district, upon board approval for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 only, to allocate up to 40 percent of the district's compensatory revenue on a districtwide basis (under current law, at least 80 percent of the revenue must remain for use at each specific school site).

**Sec. 21. Renewal by school board.** Clarifies the time period during which a school board may adopt a resolution to renew an expiring voter-approved operating referendum. Clarifies that the renewal period is a continuous period of time that begins July 1 of the second fiscal year prior to the last fiscal year of the expiring referendum and extends until June 15 of the fiscal year prior to the last year of the expiring referendum. Requires that a district renewing a referendum submit a copy of the adopted resolution to the commissioner of education and to the county auditor no later than August 15 of the fiscal year in which the referendum expires. Effective retroactively from June 16, 2024, and applies to school board renewal resolutions adopted on or after that date.

**Sec. 22. Alternative attendance programs.** Increases the minimum tuition rate for an area learning center (ALC) operated by a service cooperative, intermediate district, education district, or joint powers cooperative. Provides that a resident school district must pay tuition equal to 100% of the district average general education revenue per pupil, as adjusted for certain general education programs. Effective for fiscal year 2026 and later.

**Sec. 23. Unemployment insurance report.** Requires that the annual unemployment insurance report prepared by MDE separately identify costs attributable to special education paraprofessionals. Effective for reports filed after July 1, 2025.

**Sec. 24. Career and technical program expansion; aeronautics pilot program.** Provides that the Little Falls School District's program expenditures before the official grant award are eligible to be reimbursed from the grant. Effective retroactively from May 23, 2023.

**Sec. 25. Laws 2023, chapter 55 effective date.** Delays the repeal of various statutory provisions governing the compensatory aid program to conform with the alternative fiscal year 2026 aid calculation under an earlier section of this article.

**Sec. 26. School start date for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years only.** Allows a school district to begin the school year on or after September 1 for the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years only. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 27. Compensatory Revenue Task Force.** Establishes a compensatory revenue task force to examine the compensatory revenue formula, including revenue amounts under the program, purposes of the program, and eligible uses of the revenue. Provides for the membership, duties, administration, and expiration of the task force. Requires the task force to make a preliminary and final report to the legislature.

**Sec. 28. Appropriations.** See fiscal tracking documents.

**Sec. 29. Revisor instruction.** Directs the Revisor to modify other provisions of the PSEO law to clarify that students at charter schools and Tribal schools are eligible to participate in the program.

## **ARTICLE 2 EDUCATION EXCELLENCE**

**Section 1. Application and review process; funding priority.** Allows the commissioner to give priority for AP-IB grants to applicants that have adopted a policy to automatically enroll eligible students in preadvanced placement, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate programs.

**Sec. 2. Healthy aging and dementia education.** Encourages school districts and charter schools to provide instruction on healthy aging and dementia to students in grades 6 through 12 that is aligned with applicable health standards and integrated into existing curriculum.

**Sec. 3. Model program [for education on cannabis use and substance use].** Requires the commissioner-identified model programs on cannabis use and substance use to also include overdose recognition, prevention, and response. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 4. Violence prevention curriculum.** Encourages districts to include instruction on reducing physical abuse in a violence prevention curriculum. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 5. State growth measures; other state measures [for student academic achievement and growth].** Requires the commissioner to report language development outcomes of the target language of instruction other than English for all students in dual

immersion programs or in programs in which the objective is improving or maintaining the students' native language.

**Sec. 6. Local policy components [for school bullying policy].** Allows a parent or guardian to designate another individual to be notified of prohibited conduct under the school student bullying policy.

**Sec. 7. State model policy [for school bullying policy].** Clarifies that the Department has authority to assess and evaluate, not investigate, noncompliance with the school student bullying requirements.

**Sec. 8. Qualifications [for paraprofessionals].** Establishes the competency criteria for a Minnesota paraprofessional to meet federal personnel qualifications. Requires a school, upon request from a paraprofessional employed by the school, to provide administrative assistance to the paraprofessional when completing the competencies. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 9. Student representation.** Encourages a school board to adopt a process to include student representation to advise the school board.

**Sec. 10. Disposing of surplus books.** Allows a school district to dispose of surplus schoolbooks by donating them to a family of a student residing in the district or a charitable organization.

**Sec. 11. Experiential and applied learning opportunities for students.** Prohibits the commissioner of education from approving or denying a school board-adopted experiential and applied learning program.

**Sec. 12. P-TECH schools; board approval process.** Allows a school board to adopt a P-TECH program without commissioner approval.

**Sec. 13. P-TECH schools; grant process.** Clarifies that the commissioner is not authorized to approve or deny a locally adopted P-TECH plan.

**Sec. 14. Full-service community schools.** Modifies the full-service community schools program requirements, including the types of community organizations eligible to partner with full-service community schools. Establishes statutory criteria for the commissioner to prioritize grant awards. Modifies the composition of the school leadership team.

**Sec. 15. Minnesota math corps program.** Requires the program to use evidence-based instructional support to evaluate and accelerate student learning on foundational mathematics skills. Defines "evidence-based."

**Sec. 16. [Achievement and Integration] Public engagement; progress report and budget process.** Requires that a school board annually submit its most recent achievement and integration progress report to the commissioner.

**Sec. 17. [Achievement and Integration] Timeline and implementation.** Strikes obsolete language.

**Sec. 18. Initial achievement and integration revenue.** Increases the amount of each district’s initial achievement and integration revenue that MDE may retain for administration of the program. The administrative amount increases from 0.3% to 1.3% of initial achievement and integration revenue for the second prior fiscal year. Effective for revenue in fiscal year 2026 and later.

**Sec. 19. [Achievement and Integration] Commissioner authority to withhold revenue.** Amends the deadline for the commissioner to review district achievement and integration results from August 1 to January 1. Clarifies that the commissioner directs districts to use up to 20% of their integration revenue to implement the improvement plan until the district’s goals are met.

**Sec. 20. Literacy aid.** Renames “literacy incentive aid” as “literacy aid.”

**Sec. 21. literacy aid uses.** Requires that literacy aid be used to meet the requirements and goals adopted in the district’s local literacy plan. Effective for revenue in fiscal year 2026 and later.

**Sec. 22. Full-service community schools.** Extends the availability of the fiscal year 2024 and 2025 appropriations for full-service community schools until June 30, 2027. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 23. Innovation service-learning grants.** Extends the availability of the fiscal year 2024 appropriation for innovation service-learning grants until June 30, 2026. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 24. Appropriations.** See fiscal tracking documents.

**Sec. 25. Revisor instruction.** Instructs the revisor to codify a new chapter of statutes relating to education innovation and codifies innovation zone session law in the new chapter.

**Sec. 26. Repealer.** Repeals section 123B.935, subdivision 2 (active transportation safety training deadlines).

### **ARTICLE 3 TEACHERS**

**Section 1. Reporting [Teachers of color and American Indian teachers].** Requires the Department of Education (MDE), instead of the Professional Educators Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB), to report on programs receiving state funds that have the purpose of increasing the racial and ethnic diversity of the teacher workforce.

**Sec. 2. Requirements for board approval [of teacher preparation programs].** Removes a requirement that PELSB annually report certain performance of teacher candidates to the legislature. Strikes other obsolete language.

**Sec. 3. Reading strategies.** Completes a technical correction under Laws 2024, chapter 85, section 18, related to teacher testing requirements that were substantively modified under Laws 2023, chapter 55, article 5, sections 39 and 40.

**Sec. 4. Short-call emergency substitute teacher program.** Makes permanent a program that allows qualifying education support personnel or paraprofessionals to obtain a short-call substitute teacher license. Modifies requirements to substitute teacher rate of pay, and how long a short-call substitute teacher under the program may cover a particular assignment. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 5. Expiration [of Come Teach in Minnesota Hiring Bonus program].** Expires the Come Teach in Minnesota Hiring Bonus program on June 30, 2029, and cancels any remaining balance in the program account to the general fund on that date.

**Sec. 6. Educator Tuition Assistance Program.** Renames the Collaborative and Urban Greater Minnesota Educators of Color Grant Program as the Educator Tuition Assistance Program (ETAP). Transfers responsibility for awarding grants from PELSB to MDE. Modifies the grant award criteria, the grant award uses, the process for establishing the amount of direct financial assistance to candidates, and the grant award timeline. Provides for the transfer of staff positions from PELSB to MDE. Makes other conforming changes.

**Sec. 7. [Teacher mentorship] Grants.** Transfers responsibility for administering the teacher mentorship grant program from PELSB to MDE. Expands individual grant eligibility to additional entities, including nonprofit organizations or professional organizations.

**Sec. 8. Criteria for selection [for teacher mentorship grants].** Removes the requirement that the commissioner give priority to grant applications from programs specifically serving Tier 2 or Tier 3 teachers. Makes other conforming changes.

**Sec. 9. Program implementation [for teacher mentorship grants].** Makes conforming changes related to the transfer of the grant program from PELSB to MDE.

**Sec. 10. Grant program administration [for teacher mentorship grants].** Makes conforming changes related to the transfer of the grant program from PELSB to MDE.

**Sec. 11. Report [on teacher mentorship grants].** Reduces the frequency of the report on teacher mentorship grants from an annual report to a biennial report. Makes other conforming changes.

**Sec. 12. Positions transferred [for teacher mentorship grants].** Provides for the transfer of staff positions from PELSB to MDE related to the transfer of the grant program.

**Sec. 13. Student support personnel aid.** Modifies student support personnel aid (SSPA). Sets the per pupil allowance at \$30.05 for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 and \$34.32 per pupil for each year thereafter (current law increased the per pupil allowance from \$17.08 in fiscal year 2025 to \$48.73 for fiscal year 2026 and later). Sets the cooperative student support allowance at \$1.60 for fiscal year 2026 and thereafter. Expands the uses of the aid to include up to \$5,000 per year for employee training, job-embedded coaching, and for qualifying travel expenses among school buildings for support staff. Authorizes a school district with declining enrollment to expend funds on retaining student support personnel to maintain an existing position that would otherwise be eliminated due to budgetary concerns.

**Sec. 14. Transfer of grant administration and staff.** Provides for transfer of contracts, obligations, unexpended funds, and staff from PELSB to MDE relating to the transfer of the ETAP grants and teacher mentorship grants. Provides a framework for future transfer of facilities, services, or operations related to the transferred grant programs.

**Sec. 15. Appropriations; Department of Education.** See fiscal tracking documents.

**Sec. 16. Appropriations; Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board.** See fiscal tracking documents.

**Sec. 17. Revisor instruction.** Directs the revisor to change the term “pipeline” to “pathway” wherever it appears in Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.77. Directs the revisor of statutes to codify the Agricultural Educators grant program under chapter 122A.

## **ARTICLE 4 READ ACT**

**Section 1. Title; the Read Act.** Adds a subdivision establishing legislative intent of the Read Act.

**Sec. 2. Certified trained facilitator.** Clarifies that a “certified trained facilitator” is employed by a service cooperative rather than a literacy network.

**Sec. 3. Oral language.** Modifies definition of “oral language.”

**Sec. 4. Structured literacy.** Modifies definition of “structured literacy.”

**Sec. 5. Literacy goal.** Clarifies that the benchmarks determine grade level expectations and are more appropriate for goal setting. Encourages districts to include a process for engaging families and communities as part of a multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) framework.

**Sec. 6. Identification; report.** Includes students enrolled in dual language immersion programs in the universal kindergarten through grade 3 screening for mastery of foundational reading skills. Clarifies when oral reading fluency screeners may be used to assess reading



difficulties, including characteristics of dyslexia. Establishes separate screening requirements for students enrolled in dual language immersion programs.

**Sec. 7. Parent notification and involvement.** Requires the district to measure a student's reading proficiency in the dual language immersion program's partner language, if a screener is available. Requires the notification to parents of students enrolled in dual language immersion programs to follow the district's language access plan and to include information about students' reading proficiency, supports provided, and strategies to use at home.

**Sec. 8. Intervention.** Clarifies that the interventions needed for students must be aligned and targeted reading support to accelerate student growth. Extends the deadline for implementing evidence-based literacy interventions from the 2025-2026 school year to the 2026-2027 school year. Requires paraprofessionals who are providing a foundational literacy intervention to be monitored by a teacher who has completed one of the approved professional development trainings. Requires a paraprofessional or other unlicensed person to complete training under the Read Act offered at no cost through the regional literacy networks.

**Sec. 9. Staff development.** Strikes reference to “oral” in reference to academic language development.

**Sec. 10. Local literacy plan.** Clarifies that curricula must be evidence-based. Amends the report to the legislature summarizing local literacy plans to include the number of teachers or other staff required to complete the training under section 120B.123, subdivision 5 that have received other training or education that meets the requirements of the training approved by the Department of Education; and how the district used its literacy aid. Requires additional reporting for a district with a dual language immersion program beginning on December 31, 2025.

**Sec. 11. Dual language immersion advisory committee.** Requires the Department of Education to establish an advisory committee to advise the department on the unique needs of dual language immersion programs' implementation of the Read Act.

**Sec. 12. Approved screeners.** Broadens the requirement relating to persons that use approved screeners to include all “external partners offering literacy supports in schools.”

**Sec. 13. Professional development.** (a) Clarifies that special education teachers who are responsible for literacy instruction are required to take the required training by July 1, 2026.

(b) Expands lists of persons and organizations that can provide required professional development to teachers.

(e) Beginning July 1, 2027, requires an educator required to receive training under this section, who is new to the state of Minnesota or is newly licensed who did not receive instruction in the teaching of foundational reading skills based on structured literacy, to complete one of the approved training programs. The required training must be offered through the regional literacy network and facilitated by a local certified trained facilitator. Directs the department

to review district literacy lead waiver requests and grant waivers to educators new to the state who have completed the professional development requirements consistent with this subdivision.

(f) Extends the hours of instruction reduction for elementary students to the 2025-2026 school year. Allows the hours of instruction for secondary students to be reduced by 5 ½ hours for the 2025-2026 school year. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 14. Teacher licensure; renewal.** Establishes training requirements linked to licensure for Tier 1 and Tier 2 teachers holding particular field licenses, starting July 1, 2027. A teacher that does not complete the training requirements for reasons of insubordination or willful refusal to comply is subject to discipline from their employing district or charter school.

**Sec. 15. Department of Education.** Allows the department to identify additional literacy intervention models after the partnership with CAREI has ended.

**Sec. 16. Resources.** Requires the department to post on its website the rubric used to evaluate curriculum. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 17. Review.** Requires the review process to use the rubric used to approve curriculum with the addition of culturally responsive criteria. Requires alternative curriculum and intervention programs for those who cannot access sound-based approaches to be reviewed on the same cycle as traditional programs.

**Sec. 18. Volunteer and paraprofessional training.** Strikes references to CAREI and Tier 2 as a descriptor for interventions.

**Sec. 19. Ongoing review of literacy materials.** Requires the rubrics for ongoing reviews of curriculum and intervention materials to be posted on the department website.

**Sec. 20. Comprehensive review of literacy materials.** Requires the rubrics for future reviews of curriculum and intervention materials to be posted on the department website.

**Sec. 21. Term of license and renewal.** Amends the Tier 1 licensure statute to conform to the Read Act teacher licensure requirements in this article.

**Sec. 22. Term of license and renewal.** Amends the Tier 2 licensure statute to conform to the Read Act teacher licensure requirements in this article.

**Sec. 23. Coursework.** Amends the Tier 3 licensure statute to conform to the Read Act teacher licensure requirements in this article.

**Sec. 24. Minnesota reading corps program.** Requires reading corps to use a department-approved screener.

**Sec. 25. CAREI. [2024-2025 appropriation]** Cancels a portion of a Laws 2023 appropriation for CAREI back to the general fund on June 29, 2025. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 26. Read Act literacy aid.** Cancels the fiscal year 2024 appropriation for Read Act administration to the general fund on June 29, 2025. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 27. Administrative process [for distribution of Read Act funding].** Requires a district to distribute Read Act funding in the form of stipends to each teacher eligible for compensation if the district has not otherwise entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the exclusive representative of teachers by August 1, 2025. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 28. Regional literacy network paraprofessional and volunteer training.** Clarifies that the regional literacy networks may use the fiscal year 2025 appropriation to develop and administer literacy training. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 29. Appropriation cancellation; CAREI paraprofessional and volunteer training.** Cancels a portion of a Laws 2024 appropriation for CAREI to develop training for paraprofessional and volunteer training back to the general fund on June 30, 2025. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 30. Appropriations.** See fiscal tracking documents.

## **ARTICLE 5 CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**Section 1. Definitions [applicable to public official gift ban.]** Adds a member of a charter school board, charter school director or chief administrator to the definition of “official” for purposes of the public official gift ban.

**Sec. 2. Definitions [applicable to charter schools].** Provides a definition of “competitive procurement process” relating to procurement provisions modified later in this article. Clarifies that a charter school “market need and demand study” must include information relating to all of the proposed grades, sites, and programs for the school or additional school site.

**Sec. 3. Certain federal, state, and local requirements [applicable to charter schools].** Clarifies that a charter school must comply with all requirements under chapter 120B, not only those relating to state standards and assessments.

**Sec. 4. Statement of economic interest; gift ban.** Makes charter school board members and people employed as charter school directors or chief administrators subject to the gift bans under current state law.

**Sec. 5. Roles, responsibilities, and requirements of authorizers.** Requires a charter school authorizer to include information in its annual report regarding the commissioner’s performance review of the authorizer. Provides that an authorizer must participate in annual department-approved training.

**Sec. 6. [Charter school] merger.** Requires that the merged school and its authorizer must execute a new charter contract by June 1 preceding the July 1 effective date of the merger. Effective for mergers after July 1, 2025.

**Sec. 7. Change in location [of a charter school].** Requires a charter school to apply to its authorizer to change the location of the school and requires certain documentation for the authorizer's review and approval. Effective for applications submitted on or after July 1, 2025.

**Sec. 8. Ongoing board of directors [of a charter school].** Strikes language regarding the timing of charter school board elections that is recodified in a later section of this article.

**Sec. 9. Membership criteria [for a charter school board of directors].** Prohibits an individual who has violated the law against serving on more than one charter school board at the same time from continuing to serve as a board member and makes them ineligible to be elected or appointed to a charter school board for 24 months. Provides that a charter school board member who is compensated for serving on the board must not receive more compensation than a school board member in the district in which the charter school is located.

**Sec. 10. Board elections [for a charter school].** Recodifies language regarding the timing of charter school board elections that was stricken in a previous section of this article. Requires charter school board members to file a written oath of office with the charter school's authorizer.

**Sec. 11. Duties [of a charter school board of directors].** Requires a charter school board of directors to establish a finance committee and establishes statutory duties for the committee. Requires a charter school that is under corrective actions for financial reasons must include the school's authorizer in meetings of its finance committee, and, upon request of the authorizer, hire a financial expert.

**Sec. 12. Causes for nonrenewal or termination of a charter school contract.** Requires that a hearing before a charter school's authorizer regarding nonrenewal or termination of the charter school's contract be live-streamed. (Under current law, the hearing must also be recorded by audio, video, or a court reporter.)

**Sec. 13. Affiliated nonprofit building corporation.** Requires that a contractor or certain other interested parties must not serve on the board of a charter school's affiliated building corporation (ABC). Provides that a charter school employee or immediate family member of the employee may serve on the ABC board if the employee has no conflict of interest.

**Sec. 14. Audit report.** Requires that a charter school annually submit all supplemental information included in its audit to the commissioner and to its authorizer. The supplemental information must include any management agreement with a charter management organization (CMO) or educational management organization (EMO).

**Sec. 15. Authorizer performance evaluation report.** Requires a charter school to publish on its website the formal written performance evaluation from its authorizer and disseminate the evaluation to enrolled families.

**Sec. 16. Dissemination of information.** Requires an authorizer to publish on its website information about charter contracts, school performance reviews, notices to terminate or not renew, and certain other notices regarding charter schools in its portfolio. Requires a charter school to post a link from its website to this information on the authorizer's website, and upon request of the authorizer, distribute certain information from the authorizer to charter school employees and families. Requires an authorizer to publish on its website certain financial statements related to its authorizing activities.

**Sec. 17. Required [charter school procurement] policy components.** Clarifies charter school procurement procedures, including requirements for procurement by sealed bids or proposals.

**Sec. 18. Competitive procurement.** Defines the requirements for procurement by sealed bids or procurement by proposals.

**Sec. 19. Appropriations.** See fiscal tracking documents.

**Sec. 20. Revisor instruction.** Directs the revisor to recodify an existing subdivision regarding public accounting and reporting of CMO and EMO agreements.

## **ARTICLE 6 AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATION**

**Section 1. Prohibition on American Indian mascots.** Requires the annual report on American Indian mascots to also be submitted to the Education Finance Committees of the legislature (currently the reports are sent to the Education Policy Committees). Effective for reports submitted after June 30, 2025.

**Sec. 2. Exemption [to the prohibition on American Indian mascots].** Authorizes a school district to retain an American Indian mascot and American Indian symbols upon approval of the geographically closest American Indian Tribe and the school district's American Indian Parent Advisory Committee, as applicable. Strikes a redundant deadline for district compliance. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 3. Eligible programming [for the Minnesota Indian Teacher Training Program].** Clarifies that the Minnesota Indian Teacher Training Program (MITTP) scholarships are available to eligible students progressing toward educational goals in an early education through grade 12 educational setting (and not available for students progressing toward a career in a higher education setting).

**Sec. 4. Graduation ceremonies; Tribal regalia and objects of cultural significance; drumming and culturally appropriate activities.** Encourages a school district or charter school, if requested by the school's American Indian Parent Advisory Committee, to work with

the committee on incorporating American Indian drumming and other culturally appropriate activities during graduation activities, celebrations, or ceremonies. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 5. Eligibility for other grants.** Makes a Tribal contract school eligible to apply for education grants otherwise available to school district applicants.

**Sec. 6. Appropriations.** See fiscal tracking documents.

## **ARTICLE 7 SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**Section 1. Language access plan required.** Provides that the school board-adopted language access plan must also specify the district's process and procedures to render effective language assistance to students and adults who require additional assistance due to a disability.

**Sec. 2. [Language access] plan requirements.** Clarifies that the language access plan should address district procedures for communication relating to special education determinations and placements, ensure meaningful participation in the individualized education program (IEP) process by families where the family speaks a language other than English or has a disability themselves, and provide a process to appeal the accommodations of the access plan if needs are not met.

**Sec. 3. Definitions [for pupil transportation].** Reformats the statutory definition of special education pupil transportation without making any substantive changes to the eligible pupil transportation services.

**Sec. 4. Special education aid [for a charter school].** Reduces the state-paid tuition reimbursement of unfunded charter school special education costs from ten percent to six percent of the charter school's unreimbursed costs (80 percent of the charter school's unreimbursed special education costs continue to be billed to each student's resident school district).

**Sec. 5. State complaint process.** Establishes a process to file a complaint over a violation of the federal IDEA.

**Subd. 1. Filing a state complaint.** Allows an organization or individual to file a complaint with the Department of Education, Office of General Counsel, Dispute Resolution. Establishes requirements for a complaint.

**Subd. 2. Remedies.** Requires the department to address the failure to provide appropriate services and appropriate future provision of services for all children with disabilities when resolving a complaint and finding a failure to provide appropriate services.

**Subd. 3. Time limit and procedures.** Establishes investigation and other procedures for resolving a complaint.

**Subd. 4. Complaints and due process hearings.** Requires the department to set aside an issue or complaint that is also the subject of a due process hearing. Allows an organization or individual to file a complaint alleging a failure to implement a due process hearing decision.

**Sec. 6. Special education initial aid.** Lowers the initial reimbursement of special education pupil transportation aid expenditures from 100 percent of eligible costs to 95 percent of eligible costs for fiscal year 2026 and 90 percent of the eligible costs for fiscal years 2027 and later. Keeps the reimbursement cost for the transportation of homeless and highly mobile students at 100 percent of eligible costs.

**Sec. 7. Blue Ribbon Commission on Special Education.** Establishes a Blue Ribbon Commission on Special Education consisting of 18 members. Requires the commissioner of education to serve as chair of the commission, convene the first meeting no later than October 15, 2025, and provide administrative support to the commission. Compensates members of the commission under Minnesota Statutes, section 15.0575, subdivision 3. Requires public and stakeholder engagement. Requires the commissioner to seek input from special education experts. Establishes specific duties for the commission and requires the commission to adopt its action plan by October 1, 2026.

**Sec. 8. Direction to commissioner of management and budget; contingent reduction in special education aid appropriations.** Requires the commissioner of management and budget to assume in the forecast of state revenues and expenditures a \$250,000,000 reduction in the appropriations for special education aid for the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and for each subsequent biennium, until the end of the legislative session that enacts a budget for the Department of Education for the biennium beginning July 1, 2027.

Upon enactment of a budget for the Department of Education for the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, requires the legislature to identify enacted provisions that were recommended by or based on the recommendation of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Special Education. If the net savings attributable to the provisions of the commission action plan are less than \$250,000,000 for the biennium beginning July 1, 2027, and for each subsequent biennium, the commissioner of education must reduce the special education cross subsidy aid factor under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.76, subdivision 2e, paragraph (b), as necessary until the reductions and the action plan achieve \$250,000,000 of biennial savings.

**Sec. 9. Developmental delay age limit working group.** Requires the Department of Education to establish a working group on the age limit for children receiving special education services for developmental delay. Requires the commissioner to consult with interested organizations before appointing members to the working group. Requires the working group to meet on a regular basis, review current law limiting the eligibility of children seven years old or older from receiving intervention services for developmental delay, and assess the impact of extending eligibility to children under age nine. The working group must report its findings and recommendations to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over kindergarten through grade 12 education by February 1, 2026.

**Sec. 10. Seclusion working group.** Establishes a working group of 16 members to evaluate the use of seclusion in schools. Provides for the working group's members, duties, meeting arrangements, administrative support, agency consultation, and expiration. Requires the working group to make a report to the legislature by January 30, 2026.

**Sec. 11. Appropriations; Department of Education.** See fiscal tracking documents.

**Sec. 12. Appropriation; Legislative Coordinating Commission.** Appropriates money to the Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC) for the seclusion working group. See fiscal tracking documents.

## **ARTICLE 8 FACILITIES, HEALTH, AND SAFETY**

**Section. 1. Exclusions.** Updates terminology from epinephrine auto-injectors to epinephrine delivery systems.

**Sec. 2. Possession and use of epinephrine delivery systems; model policy.** Defines "epinephrine delivery system" as a medication product that automatically delivers a singled, premeasured does of epinephrine to prevent or treat a life-threatening allergic reaction. Updates terminology from epinephrine auto-injectors to epinephrine delivery systems.

**Sec. 3. Life-threatening allergies in schools; stock supply of epinephrine delivery systems.** Updates terminology from epinephrine auto-injectors to epinephrine delivery systems. Directs the Commissioner of Health to provide a district or school with a standing order for distribution of epinephrine delivery systems.

**Sec. 4. Opiate antagonists.** Authorizes a district or charter school to allow a high school student to possess and administer an opiate antagonist to another high school student.

**Sec. 5. Cardiac emergency response plan.** Requires a school district or charter school to develop a cardiac emergency response plan beginning in the 2026-2027 school year. Establishes minimum requirements for the plan.

**Sec. 6. Resolution [for school district consolidation].** Provides that capital project referendum authority for a school district may continue if that district consolidates with another district before the current authority expires, unless the consolidation plan provides otherwise.

**Sec. 7. Supporting statement [for school district consolidation].** Requires that the county auditor's supporting statement regarding school district consolidation include information about the disposition of capital project referendum revenue of the component districts.

**Sec. 8. Consolidation; capital project referendum revenue.** Provides a process for recalculating and establishing the remaining term of the capital project referendum authority for the consolidated district.



**Sec. 9. Long-term facilities maintenance revenue.** Authorize a school district to include roof repair and replacement costs totaling \$100,000 or more per site in the district's annual long-term facilities maintenance (LTFM) revenue authority. (For most districts, this specific authority would increase revenues potentially available for roof repair and replacement and free up money currently being spent for that purpose for reallocation toward other deferred maintenance projects.) Effective for fiscal year 2027 and later.

**Sec. 10. [Long-term facilities maintenance] facilities plans.** Beginning for fiscal year 2027, requires each district to include information about roof repair and replacement in its ten-year LTFM facility plan.

**Sec. 11. Long-term facilities maintenance equalized levy.** Increases the LTFM equalizing factor beginning in fiscal year 2027 to offset projected increases in statewide LTFM levies with additional equalization aid.

**Sec. 12. Allowed uses for long-term facilities maintenance revenue.** Clarifies that repair and replacement of roofs is an allowable use of LTFM revenue.

**Sec. 13. Review and comment.** Removes the current-law review and comment exemption for projects funded only with proceeds from an additional capital expenditure levy (building lease levy). Effective for review and comments submitted on or after July 1, 2025.

**Sec. 14. Internet access for students.** Strikes language to conform with the repeal of the equity in telecommunications access aid program.

**Sec. 15. To lease building or land.** Provides that projects funded by the building lease levy may be subject to review and comment if the project exceeds certain expenditure thresholds. Requires the commissioner to annually prescribe criteria for approval of lease levy applications. Makes other clarifying and technical changes. Effective July 1, 2025, and applies to capital lease levy applications submitted on or after that date.

**Sec. 16. Definitions [for the building lease levy program].** Provides definitions applicable to the building lease levy program. Effective July 1, 2025, and applies to capital lease levy applications submitted on or after that date.

**Sec. 17. Ice arena levy.** Authorizes two or more school districts to apportion the levy for the costs of cooperative operation of an ice arena among cooperating districts. Requires each cooperating district to report information about the apportionment to the commissioner. Effective for taxes payable in 2026 and later.

**Sec. 18. Appropriations.** See fiscal tracking documents.

**Sec. 19. Repealer.** Repeals long-term facilities maintenance (LTFM) revenue authority for charter schools for FY2026 and later. Repeals the equity in telecommunications access aid program for FY2028 and later.

## ARTICLE 9 SCHOOL NUTRITION AND LIBRARIES

**Section 1. School lunch aid amounts [additional state contribution].** Reduces the additional state funding for school lunch (above the amount established by federal rule for free lunch) from 12.5 cents to 6.25 cents per meal served beginning in fiscal year 2028.

**Sec. 2. Federal food programs.** Establishes statutory criteria for evaluating applications from nonprofit organizations applying for sponsorship as a multisite sponsoring organization under the federal child and adult care food program and federal summer food service program. Requires certain financial staffing and board governance. Requires the commissioner to establish salary guidelines and limits the amount of salary costs that may be charged to the nonprofit food service fund.

**Sec. 3. School food service fund.** Clarifies the administrative costs that may be charged to a school district's food service fund. States that Minnesota should allow schools to expend food service funds on nutritional programs, lunchroom space, and kitchen space to the extent allowed by federal law.

**Sec. 4. Second lunch.** Requires a school to allow a student to purchase a second lunch if the student has already selected a reimbursable lunch.

**Sec. 5. Second breakfast.** Requires a school to allow a student to purchase a second breakfast if the student has already selected a reimbursable breakfast.

**Sec. 6. Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer Program replacement aid.** Repurposes the money previously appropriated for Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsor participation to instead be distributed to schools for administrative costs for the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer Program (S-EBT).

**Sec. 7. Summer food service program locations.** Modifies reference to applicable federal regulation.

**Sec. 8. School library aid.** Reduces per pupil school library aid to \$10.27 for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 and to \$9.12 for fiscal year 2028 and later. Reduces minimum amounts from \$40,000 for a school district and \$20,000 for a charter school, to \$20,000 for a school district and \$10,000 for a charter school beginning in fiscal year 2026. Clarifies that only independent and special school districts are eligible to receive school library aid, not including common school districts or "nonoperating" school districts. Strikes other obsolete language.

**Sec. 9. State school librarian.** Limits the funding of the state school librarian from school library aid to fiscal year 2026 and 2027 only. (For fiscal year 2028 and later, the position will be funded out of MDE's agency appropriation.)



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**Sec. 10. Uses of school library aid.** Removes electronic, computer, and audiovisual equipment; and information technology infrastructure and digital tools from the list of eligible uses of school library aid. Effective for fiscal year 2026 and later.

**Sec. 11. Appropriations.** See fiscal tracking documents.

## **ARTICLE 10 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

**Section 1. [Kindergarten entry assessment] implementation.** Delays district and charter school full required implementation of the kindergarten entry assessment until the 2026-2027 school year.

**Sec. 2. Aid payment percentage.** Clarifies the state aid payment schedule for certain early childhood education programs that were transferred from MDE to DCYF.

**Sec. 3. [School readiness aid] funding.** Clarifies the state aid administration and payment schedule for the school readiness program that was transferred from MDE to DCYF.

**Sec. 4. [Voluntary prekindergarten program] funding.** Clarifies the state aid administration and payment schedule for the voluntary prekindergarten program that was transferred from MDE to DCYF.

**Sec. 5. Developmental screening aid.** Clarifies the state aid administration and payment schedule for the developmental screening aid program that was transferred from MDE to DCYF.

**Sec. 6. [Early childhood family education] revenue.** Makes a technical correction to provide a statutory cross-reference to the basic revenue formula allowance.

**Sec. 7. [Early childhood family education] population.** Makes a technical correction to specifically identify that school district population data are reported to MDE.

**Sec. 8. [Early childhood family education] funding.** Clarifies the state aid administration and payment schedule for the early childhood family education (ECFE) program that was transferred from MDE to DCYF.

**Sec. 9. Appropriations; Department of Education.** See fiscal tracking documents.

**Sec. 10. Appropriations; Department of Children, Youth, and Families.** See fiscal tracking documents.

**Sec. 11. Appropriations; Office of Higher Education.** See fiscal tracking documents.

## ARTICLE 11 COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING

**Section. 1. [Adult basic education] program approval.** Moves the adult basic education program approval from a five-year cycle to a six-year cycle.

**Sec. 2. Appropriations.** See fiscal tracking documents.

## ARTICLE 12 STATE AGENCIES

**Section 1. Directory information; data on parents.** Requires educational agencies or institutions sharing personal student contact information and directory information for students in special education to comply with requirements for parental consent under federal regulations.

**Sec. 2. Rulemaking [for academic standards].** Requires MDE to adopt academic standards through the regular rulemaking process rather than the expedited rulemaking process.

**Sec. 3. Education grants.** Establishes new standards for the Department of Education when awarding or administering grants. The new standards prohibit the department from issuing a grant or require the cancellation of an existing grant under certain conditions relating to federal and state registration and filing requirements. Exempts grants to school districts, charter schools, cooperative units, Tribal contract schools, and other political subdivisions from the new standards.

**Sec. 4. Excess tax increment.** Directs the county auditor to certify to the commissioner the amount of any excess tax increment by February 1 of each year. Modifies the calculation of a school district's aid and levy limitations upon return of excess tax increment or decertification of a tax increment financing (TIF) district. (The amendment to paragraph (b)(2)(i)(A) is a technical change to correctly reference the name and statutory reference of the long-term facilities maintenance (LTFM) program. The amendment to paragraph (b)(2)(i)(K) adds the equalized local optional revenue (LOR) program to the list of programs adjusted for excess tax increment.) Various effective dates.

**Sec. 5. Report [for programs receiving an alternative teacher preparation grant].** Requires an alternative teacher preparation program to report only in years that the program receives grant funding.

**Sec. 6. Appropriations; Perpich Center for Arts Education [FY2024-25 appropriation].** Extends the Perpich Center's fiscal year 2024 appropriation for furniture replacement until



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June 30, 2027. Expands the allowable uses of the funds to include equipment and technology. Effective immediately.

**Sec. 7. Cancellation; Minnesota Department of Education Appropriations.** Cancels the remaining portions of two fiscal year appropriations to MDE that would otherwise go unspent. Reduces the appropriation for the Office of Inspector General by \$1,500,000 and the appropriation for activities related to the proposed new special education rule for specific learning disabilities by \$500,000.

**Sec. 8. Appropriations; Department of Education.** See fiscal tracking documents.

**Sec. 9. Appropriations; Minnesota State Academies.** See fiscal tracking documents.

**Sec. 10. Appropriations; Perpich Center for Arts Education.** See fiscal tracking documents.

**Sec. 11. Appropriations; Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board.** See fiscal tracking documents.

## **ARTICLE 13 FORECAST**

This article amends various previous appropriations for fiscal year 2025 to conform with the February 2025 budget and economic forecast. The appropriation changes in this article are cost-neutral relative to the February 2025 forecast baseline. The article is effective immediately.



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