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State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH  
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **1887**

March 8, 2007

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on E-12 Education

March 20, 2007

Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:

To Pass and re-referred to the Committee on Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to education; providing for a hearing loss early education intervention  
1.3 coordinator; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section  
1.4 125A.63, by adding a subdivision.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.63, is amended by adding a  
1.7 subdivision to read:

1.8 **Subd. 5. Statewide hearing loss early education intervention coordinator. (a)**

1.9 The coordinator shall:

1.10 (1) collaborate with the early hearing detection and intervention coordinator for the  
1.11 Department of Health, the director of the Department of Education Resource Center for  
1.12 Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing, and the Department of Health Early Hearing Detection and  
1.13 Intervention Advisory Council;

1.14 (2) coordinate and support Department of Education early hearing detection and  
1.15 intervention teams;

1.16 (3) leverage resources by serving as a liaison between interagency early intervention  
1.17 committees; part C coordinators from the Departments of Education, Health, and  
1.18 Human Services; Department of Education regional low-incidence facilitators; service  
1.19 coordinators from school districts; Minnesota children with special health needs in the  
1.20 Department of Health; public health nurses; child find; Department of Human Services  
1.21 Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Services Division; and others as appropriate;

1.22 (4) identify, support, and promote culturally appropriate and evidence-based early  
1.23 intervention practices for infants with hearing loss, and provide training, outreach, and use  
1.24 of technology to increase consistency in statewide service provision;

2.1 (5) identify culturally appropriate specialized reliable and valid instruments to assess  
2.2 and track the progress of children with hearing loss and promote their use;

2.3 (6) ensure that early childhood providers, parents, and members of the individual  
2.4 family service and intervention plan are provided with child progress data resulting from  
2.5 specialized assessments;

2.6 (7) educate early childhood providers and teachers of the deaf and hard-of-hearing  
2.7 to use developmental data from specialized assessments to plan and adjust individual  
2.8 family service plans; and

2.9 (8) make recommendations that would improve educational outcomes to the early  
2.10 hearing detection and intervention committee, the commissioners of education and health,  
2.11 the Minnesota Commission Serving Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing People, and the advisory  
2.12 council of the Minnesota Department of Education Resource Center for the Deaf and  
2.13 Hard-of-Hearing.

2.14 (b) The Department of Education must provide aggregate data regarding outcomes  
2.15 of deaf and hard-of-hearing children who receive early intervention services within the  
2.16 state in accordance with the state performance plan.

2.17 **Sec. 2. APPROPRIATIONS.**

2.18 (a) \$160,000 in fiscal year 2008 is appropriated from the general fund to the  
2.19 commissioner of education for the position of an early hearing loss intervention  
2.20 coordinator to support the early intervention services of infants and children newly  
2.21 diagnosed with hearing loss.

2.22 (b) \$60,000 in fiscal year 2008 is appropriated from the general fund to the  
2.23 commissioner of education for training and expenses for early hearing detection and  
2.24 intervention teams.