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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. **1785**

02/27/2019 Authored by Richardson; Kunesh-Podein; Lee; Xiong, J., and Moran
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Early Childhood Finance and Policy Division
05/07/2020 Adoption of Report: Placed on the General Register as Amended
Pursuant to Joint Rule 2.03, re-referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to education; requiring participation in preschool and prekindergarten and
1.3 prohibiting disciplinary dismissals; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota
1.4 Statutes, chapter 121A.

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

1.6 Section 1. [121A.425] FULL AND EQUITABLE PARTICIPATION IN PRESCHOOL
1.7 AND PREKINDERGARTEN.

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Disciplinary dismissals prohibited.** A pupil enrolled in a preschool or
1.9 prekindergarten program, including a child participating in early childhood family education,
1.10 school readiness, school readiness plus, voluntary prekindergarten, Head Start, or other
1.11 school-based preschool or prekindergarten program may not be subject to dismissals under
1.12 this chapter. Notwithstanding the language in this subdivision, expulsions and exclusions
1.13 may be used only after resources as outlined in subdivision 2 have been exhausted, and only
1.14 in circumstances where there is an ongoing serious safety threat to the child or others.

1.15 Subd. 2. **Nonexclusionary discipline.** A school district or charter school must ensure
1.16 that a pupil described in subdivision 1 fully participates in a preschool or prekindergarten
1.17 program described in subdivision 1 by providing one or more of the following services:

1.18 (1) collaborating with the pupil's family or guardian, child mental health consultant or
1.19 provider, education specialist, or other community-based support;

1.20 (2) creating a plan, written with the parent or guardian, that details the action and support
1.21 needed for the pupil to fully participate in a preschool or prekindergarten program;

- 2.1 (3) providing a referral for needed support services, including parenting education, home
2.2 visits, or other supportive educational interventions; or
- 2.3 (4) an evaluation to determine if the pupil is eligible for special education services or
2.4 section 504 services.