

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **Item 9: Department of Education Early Literacy Success Community and Tribal Grants**

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To: Ways and Means Full Committee  
From: Education Subcommittee  
Carrier: Senator Dembrow

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The Education Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means recommend acknowledging receipt of a report on the implementation plan for the Early Literacy Success Community and Tribal Grant program; and recommend approving the plan and increasing Other Funds expenditure limitation by \$9,999,999 from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account in the Fund for Student Success, for the Department of Education in a budget reconciliation bill during the 2024 legislative session for implementation of the programs.

A budget note in the budget report for HB 3198 directed the Department of Education to develop and report on a plan for the Early Literacy Success Community Grant program created in the measure. The Department's report contains plans for two grant programs: a \$2 million non-competitive grant to tribal nations, and an \$8 million competitive grant program for community-based organizations that offer early literacy training and programs for families and caregivers to use outside of the school setting. Grant funds will allow tribes and community-based organizations to provide culturally responsive books, literacy tutoring programs, and early literacy professional development for staff members and families. Outcome indicators will measure progress toward children's language and early literacy skill development. If the plans are approved, grant awards are anticipated to be made by July 2024.

The Education Subcommittee recommends approval.