



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

DATE OF MEETING: **April 8, 2014**

TITLE: **Periodic Legislative Update**

BACKGROUND:

This Item is presented to update the Governing Board regarding the status of bills in the current (second regular) session of the 51st Arizona Legislature. The status of some bills in this session has not changed at all since the Board's last review. Where that is the case, information regarding the bill is not provided in the attachment in order to eliminate unnecessary re-reading of unchanged information.

The legislation is again grouped together by the general topic.

RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for the Board's information only at this time. No action is required.

INITIATED BY:

Todd A. Jaeger, Associate to the Superintendent

Date: April 2, 2014

Patrick Nelson, Superintendent

**BILLS INTRODUCED
IN THE FIFTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

Employee-Related Bills

HB 2018 NOW: mortgages, trust deeds and deficiency actions

Formerly: ASRS; in service distributions

Removes anti-deficiency protection for mortgages and deeds originated after 12/31/14 for certain properties.

Status: After passing the House, a strike-everything amendment to HB 2018 (ASRS; in service distributions) relating to mortgages, trust deeds and deficiency actions was passed in the Senate Finance Committee on 3/19.

HB 2050 ASRS membership; section 218 requirements

Decoupling of ASRS from 218 Agreements

- Decouples ASRS's eligibility requirements from the state's Section 218 agreement with the Social Security Administration. ASRS members will no longer be required to have coverage under these agreements.
- Defines *eligible employee* as one of the following:
 - an employee who is currently employed by an ASRS employer, who was previously enrolled in ASRS but was disenrolled because the employee was not included in agreements providing for the employee's Social Security coverage, and who had the member and employer contributions to ASRS returned to the employer and the employee's service credit reduced;
 - an employee who is currently employed by an ASRS employer and who was not enrolled in ASRS because the employee was not included in agreements providing for the employee's Social Security coverage; and
 - an employee who is currently employed by an ASRS employer and who was participating in the DC plan repealed by this act.
- Prohibits the following persons from membership in ASRS:
 - a person who performs services in a hospital, home or other institution as an inmate or patient at the hospital, home or other institution;
 - a person who performs agricultural labor services, as defined in Section 210 of the Social Security Act;
 - a person who is a nonresident alien temporarily residing in the United States and who holds an F-1, J-1, M-1 or Q-1 visa when services are performed;
 - a person who performs services for a school, college or university in this state at which the person is enrolled as a student, as defined by the employing institution. Requires the employing institution to maintain an appeal process; and
 - a person who performs services under a program designed to relieve the person from unemployment.
- Requires interest to be calculated from the date of the return of the employee's and employer's contributions, for an employee who was employed by an ASRS employer, but who had contributions to ASRS returned and service credit reduced,
- Repeals statute stipulating how employers were required to decide eligibility for ASRS before this legislation.

DC Plan

- Repeals ASRS's defined contribution plan established by Laws 2013, Chapter 216 (DC Plan).
- Requires any employee participating in the DC plan repealed by this act to discontinue employee contributions to the DC plan and the accompanying long-term disability program (LTD)
- Requires ASRS, at the request of the employee and within 180 days of the effective date to either distribute the balance of the employee's DC plan account or transfer the balance of the employee's account to another eligible retirement 401 (a)(31)(E) plan. If the employee does not make a designation within the required time, ASRS shall transfer the balance of the employee's account to an individual retirement account and designate the employee as the account holder.
- Allows an employee who was participating in the DC plan and who is receiving LTD benefits to receive those benefits until the earliest of the following:
 - the date the member ceases to be totally disabled;
 - the date the member ceases to be under the direct care of a doctor or refuses to undergo any medical examination or participate in any work rehabilitation program;
 - the later of: a) age 65; b) The month following 60 months of payments if the disability commences before the member reaches 65 years of age; c) The month after the member is at least 65 years of age if the disability commences when the member is at least 65 years of age;
 - The month following 12 months of payments if the disability commences when the member is at least 69 years of age; and
 - if the member is convicted of a criminal offense and sentenced to more than six months in a jail, prison or other penal institution, the first day of the month following the first 30 continuous days of the member's confinement for the remainder of the confinement.
- Allows an employee who elects to transfer the balance of the employee's DC plan to ASRS, to either pay the difference or to accept a reduced amount of service credits, if that balance is less than the amount required to purchase the employee's service credit.

Service Purchase within 180 Days

- Requires an ASRS employer to enroll an eligible employee in ASRS and allows the eligible employee to have the previous period of continuous employment credited for pension purposes if both of the following conditions are met:
 - the eligible employee elects to purchase eligible service credit within 90 days after the effective date of this act; and
 - the eligible employee pays into the ASRS depository the prescribed amounts within 180 days after the effective date of this act.
- Requires the employee to pay member contributions that would have been contributed by the employer on the employee's behalf, plus interest, equal to the interest rate assumption approved by the ASRS board for actuarial equivalency, through the date of deposit.
- Requires ASRS to proportionately reduce the amount of service credited to the member's account if the eligible employee pays less than the amount required.
- Requires the employer whose eligible employee is purchasing service credit to pay the employer contributions that would have been contributed by the employer on behalf of the member, except that the employer is required to pay for only the amount of service credit the eligible employee elects to purchase.
- Requires the employer to also pay interest, equal to the interest rate assumption approved by the ASRS board for actuarial equivalency, through the date of deposit into the ASRS depository. The employer shall pay the amounts within 12 months after the eligible employee elects to purchase eligible service credit.
- Allows the employer whose eligible employee is purchasing credit to elect to pay all or a portion of the interest due on the member contributions.

Service Purchase Outside 180 Days

- Allows employees with at least five years of credited service to purchase up to 60 months of eligible service at a later date, in an amount equal to the present value of the additional benefit that is derived from the purchased credited service using the actuarial assumptions that are approved by the ASRS Board.
- Allows employees who pay less than the full amount, to purchase the remaining amount of eligible service credit in an amount equal to the present value of the additional benefit at a later date.

Status: Ready for the Senate Committee of the Whole 3/11.

HB 2058 public pensions; limit on compensation [see also HB 2212]

- Reduces the annual compensation that may be used to calculate a member's ASRS, PSPRS, or COPR retirement benefit to \$150,000 for members hired on or after the effective date.
- Redefines *termination incentive program* by reducing the total compensation that a member can receive before termination from 30% to 15%, if this amount is used to calculate pension benefits and is not attributed to a promotion.
- Defines *promotion* as a true change in position, job duties, and job title from the position occupied by the member prior to retirement.

Status: Passed the Senate Finance Committee 3/19; assigned to the Rules Committees.

HB 2122 ASRS; election; EORP defined contribution

- Clarifies that an elected official who is or has already been an active, inactive, retired, or disabled member of ASRS will maintain or resume membership within this system upon election, retroactive to January 1, 2014.
- Requires a member of Elected Officials' Defined Contribution Retirement System (EODCRS) to apply for disability benefits within one year of terminating office.
- Stipulates that payments of EODCRS disability benefits may be made retroactive only to the date the PSPRS board of trustees receives the application.
- *Status:* Ready for the Senate Committee of the Whole 3/19.

HB 2306 fingerprint clearance checks; periodic checks

- Requires, instead of allows, DPS to conduct periodic state criminal history records checks on fingerprint clearance cardholders.
- Permits DPS to conduct federal criminal history records checks on fingerprint clearance cardholders, when authorized under federal law.

Status: Ready for the Senate Committee of the Whole 3/11.

SB 1084 ASRS; long-term disability compensation

Clarifies the definition of *monthly compensation* in the ASRS long-term disability statutes.

Status: Passed the House 3/31.

SB 1085 ASRS; long-term disability program

Bifurcates the benefit ratio for a member receiving long-term disability benefits in the ASRS.

Status: Assigned to the Senate Committees on Ways & Means; and Rules 3/13.

SB 1094 school employees; paycheck deductions; authorization

- Changes the definition of *monthly compensation* as the amount determined by taking the six pay periods immediately before the date of the member's disability, disregarding the highest two and lowest two compensation amounts, and deriving the median of the two remaining pay periods.
- Stipulates that if the member was employed for fewer than six pay periods, monthly compensation will be determined by deriving the median of the number of pay periods the member worked.

Status: Failed the Senate on a 13-16-1 vote 3/17.

SB 1289 student teacher loan program; appropriation

- Appropriates \$500,000 from the state General Fund to the ACPE in FY 2015 for the MSSE Program.
- Increases the maximum annual dollar amount for a MSSE Program loan from \$7,000 to \$10,000.
- Authorizes the ACPE to grant MSSE Program loans to students pursuing a teaching certificate at a qualifying postsecondary institution.
- Specifies that students pursuing a teaching degree or who are in a teacher certification program after obtaining a Bachelor's degree are not disqualified from the MSSE Program eligibility.
- Specifies that the loan recipients must begin the service commitment within one calendar year after completing:
 - teaching degree;
 - a teacher certification program;
 - postgraduate studies;
 - required military service; or
 - any other cause deemed sufficient by the ACPE.

Status: Passed the Senate; transmitted to the House 3/13 and assigned to Committees on Higher Education and Workforce Development (passed 3/19); Appropriations, and Rules.

Scholarships

HB 2150 empowerment scholarship; military families

Establishes Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) eligibility exceptions for children of certain military families

- Includes children whose parent or guardian was killed in the line of duty in the definition of an ESA *qualified student*.
- Excludes children whose parent or guardian is an active duty member of the armed forces or who was killed in the line of duty from additional eligibility requirements to meet the definition of an ESA *qualified student*.

Status: Ready for the Senate Committee of the Whole 3/17.

HB 2291 empowerment scholarships accounts; expansion

Amends ARS 15-2401 (definitions) to include as a *qualified student* a state resident a child who/whose:

- qualifies for free or reduced price lunches (beginning in SY 2016-2017 school year);
- whose family income exceeds by no more than 15% economic eligibility for free or reduced price lunches (beginning in SY 2017-2018 school year);
- family income exceeds by no more than 30% economic eligibility for free or reduced price lunches (beginning in the 2018-2019 school year);

- parent who is a first responder; and/or
- is the sibling of a current or previous empowerment scholarship account recipient.

Status: Retained on the House Committee of the Whole Calendar 2/27, 3/3 and 3/10.

SB 1237 empowerment scholarship accounts; revisions

- Replaces the requirement for the ADE to provide a copy of an ESA contract to the county school superintendent with a list of students participating in the ESA program.
- Specifies that:
 - kindergarten eligible students must reside within the attendance boundary of a *D* or *F* school to be an *ESA qualified student*.
 - ESA monies may be used for tutoring or teaching services provided by an individual or facility accredited by a state, regional or national accrediting organization.
 - all *ESA qualified students* receive 90% of the sum of the base support level and charter school additional assistance.
- Requires:
 - the ADE to contract with an independent third party who determines if a *qualified student* is eligible to receive educational therapies or services.
 - parents of an ESA student to use a portion of the ESA monies allocated each quarter to provide an education, unless ESA monies are on a non-quarterly transfer schedule.
- Includes a child identified by the third party as a child with a disability in the definition of *qualified student*.
- Prohibits ESA monies from being used for educational therapies or services unless the student has been identified as having a disability by the school district or an independent third party contracted with the ADE.
- Allows the ADE to make ESA money transfers on a non-quarterly basis if the ADE determines that another transfer schedule is necessary for the operation of the ESA.

This Bill was **amended** in the House Committee on Education to:

- Removes language specifying that all ESA students receive 90% of the base support level plus charter school additional assistance.
- Stipulates that all ESA students receive 90% of the base support level.
 - Allows students who previously attended a charter school to receive 90% of the charter additional assistance in addition to 90% of the base support level.
- Determines, as session law, that students enrolled in the ESA program before the effective date of this act will continue to receive funding at the current amount for the duration of time that the child remains continuously enrolled in the ESA program.

Status: Assigned to the House Committees of Education (amended and passed 3/17); Appropriations (passed 3/26); and Rules.

Charter/Private Schools/JTEDs

HB 2039 charter schools; higher education charters

Allows all charter schools to participate in the ASRS and all charter sponsors to include exceptions to financial and electronic data submission requirements in a school's charter, retroactive to June 30, 2013.

Status: Ready for the Senate Committee of the Whole 3/17.

SB 1391 schools; noncertificated employees; fingerprinting

As amended in the Senate, this bill now:

- Requires:
 - noncertificated and [volunteers] to obtain a fingerprint clearance card.
 - no later than five years after the general effective date.
 - at least 20 percent of those personnel to comply each year until all personnel are in compliance.
- Exempts volunteers accompanied by fingerprint clearance cardholders from the requirement [such as a guest speaker].

Status: Passed the Senate and transmitted to the House 2/27; assigned to Committees on Education (where a strike-everything amendment was passed 3/17), and Rules.

Finance/Budget

HB 2219 tax credit; research activity; refunds

Amends ARS 41-1507 (tax credit for increased research activity; qualification for refund) to increase the amount available for research tax refunds from \$5 million to \$10 million for the 2015 calendar year; and to \$15 million for 2016 and beyond. Specifies that only half of total amount may be approved in first 6 months of a calendar year; during the second 6 month period, remaining refund amount may be allocated.

Status: Passed the House 3/6; transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Finance; Government & Environment, and Rules.

HB 2238 ADE; appropriation; geographic literacy

Appropriates \$100,000 for a grant to a statewide geographic alliance for the purpose of strengthening geographic literacy.

Status: Passed the House 3/10; transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Appropriations (passed 3/25); Education (passed 3/20), and Rules.

HB 2328 STOs; grants; corporate tax credit

Modifies requirements for qualified students under Lexie's Law so that any student who is a prior qualified student who continues to attend a qualified school, is placed in foster care, or is identified as having a disability under relevant laws is eligible for the program.

Status: Passed the House 3/6; transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Education (passed 3/20), and Rules.

HB 2395 property tax calculations; school districts

Requires a county school superintendent to report primary and secondary property tax calculations to the Property Tax Oversight Commission (PTOC) and school district governing boards by July 10 and requires the PTOC to review, and correct if necessary, such estimates which are then reported to the County Board of Supervisors by the third Monday in August. Provides for a hearing before the PTOC if the PTOC notifies a school district of an incorrect calculation and the school district disputes the finding. An amendment passed in the Senate Finance Committee eliminates the authority for the PTOC to recalculate primary property tax calculations as necessary.

Status: Passed the House 2/27; transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Finance (passed 3/12), and Rules.

HB 2428 appropriation; ADE; reading program grants

- Allocates \$250,000 [amended in Senate Appropriations Committee from \$500,000] from the GF in FY 2015 to ADE for distribution to school districts and charter schools to fund reading intensive programs.
- Allots a grant equivalent to be determined by ADE for each student in the school district or charter school who has failed to meet the reading standards for the student's individual grade level.
- States that approval for a grant must be shown by a submitted review of the school district or charter school's reading program to ADE, which would include:
 - The types of evidence-based reading interventions that will be provided and the goals for the next three-year period to reduce the number of pupils at the end of grade 3 who are not promoted to grade 4 due to reading deficiencies.
- Stipulates that the ADE should award the grants with the goal of maximizing the number of pupils who meet or exceed the third grade reading standard.
- Allows the ADE to consider the following when awarding a grant:
 - The number of pupils in the school district or charter classified as an English Language Learners
 - The percentage of pupils in the school district or charter school that qualify for free and reduced lunch
 - The average number of pupils in the school district or charter school who fell below the reading standard for third grade pupils over the previous three years
- States that in order for a school to be eligible for a grant, they must have received monies generated by the K-3 Reading Support Level in FY 2015, only after their reading program was approved by ADE.

Status: Passed the House 3/10 on a 33-24-3 vote; transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Appropriations (amended and passed 3/25); Education, and Rules.

HB 2521 school calendar; 200 days; funding

Districts/Charters providing 200 instruction days may increase base level by 8 (from 5) percent. ADE must approve 200-day schedule by November 1. The House Committee on Appropriations amended the bill to limit the base level funding increase for new schools or districts entering into the 200-day instructional program at \$1,000,000.

Status: Passed the House 3/6; transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Education; Appropriations, and Rules 3/10.

HB 2543 appropriation; schools; mental health training

Appropriates \$250,000 in FY 14-15 for ADE's program expenses and District/Charter reimbursement "for programs that promote safe and supportive school environments and mental health, including programs for youth mental health first aid."

Status: Passed the House 3/10; transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Education; Appropriations, and Rules 3/11.

HCR 2018 funding ballot measures; reauthorization

Proposed constitutional amendment requiring initiatives and referendums that require the expenditure of state monies to be re-authorized every eight years. Applies retroactively to previous ballot measures. Requires periodic reports on the costs of each voter-protected measure.

Status: Passed the House 3/5; transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Education; Appropriations (passed on a 4-3-2 vote on 3/11), and Rules 3/10.

HCR 2022 personal property tax; exemption

Proposed constitutional amendment modifying the tax exemption for personal property used for agricultural, trade or business purposes. The current exemption threshold under which the legislature may exempt the property from taxation is a full cash value of \$50,000 adjusted annually for inflation. The proposed threshold is \$2.4 million annually adjusted for inflation, to apply to property acquired during or after tax year 2015.

Status: Passed the House 3/6; transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Finance (passed 3/19), and Rules 3/11.

SB 1092 school finance; funding system

Designates distribution of classroom site fund monies; establishes The Arizona K-12 education fund to be administered by the ADE

Status: Passed the Senate 3/5; transmitted to the House and assigned to Committees on Education (passed 3/17); Ways & Means, and Rules 3/10.

SB 1101 appropriation; ADE; economic education grants

Appropriates \$150,000 to the ADE in FY 2015 for the purpose of providing professional development to teachers in economic education.

Status: Passed the Senate and transmitted to the House. Assigned to Committees on Education (passed 3/3); Appropriations (passed 3/12), and Rules.

SB 1144 appropriation; K-3 reading program

Appropriates \$40,000,000 to DOE to fund K-3 intervention and remedial reading strategies. Funds distribution based on number of district/charter school 3rd graders who are approaching or falling far below 3rd grade AIMS scores.

Status: Assigned to Committees on Education; Appropriations, and Rules 1/22.

SB 1169 tax credits; rate reductions; suspension

ARS 42-1301 (definition) revised to define a "trigger event" as a fiscal year in which:

- JLBC determines that state K-12 education expenditures per student are at least equal to the nationwide median; and/or
- 94% of 3rd graders are meeting AIMS reading tests; and/or
- the state high school graduation rate is 93%.

Until trigger event occurs,

- Class One property value assessment is 18.5% of its full cash value or limited valuation, as applicable; and
- Corporations, unless exempt, must pay the greater of 6% income or \$50.

Status: Assigned to Committees on Finance; and Rules 1/23.

SB 1182 school district overrides; bonds; information

School District Overrides

- Requires the purpose statement contained in any override election informational report to only present factual information in a neutral manner.
- Specifies that advocacy for the expenditures contained in any override election informational report is strictly limited to the arguments section of the informational report.
- Requires District Additional Assistance override informational reports to include the estimated cost of each capital improvement for an owner-occupied residence with an average assessed valuation of Class Three property in the school district for the current year.
- Eliminates the prohibition of a second override continuation request and modifies election pamphlet language.
- Modifies the purpose statement and arguments sections of override and bond election informational pamphlets.

Bonds

- Requires the purpose statement contained in any political subdivision bond election informational pamphlet to only present factual information in a neutral manner.
- Specifies that advocacy for the expenditures contained in any political subdivision bond election informational pamphlet is strictly limited to the arguments section of the informational pamphlet.
- Requires the bond election informational pamphlet to contain information on the projects and expenditures for which the bonds are to be issued.

Status: Ready for the House Committee of the Whole 4/1.

SB 1350 ADE school finance revisions

Revises ARS 15-101 (definitions):

- *student count* revised to *average daily membership*;
- *Elementary grades* means kindergarten programs and grades one through eight; and
- *Secondary grades* means grades nine through twelve.

Charters

- may use initial estimated student counts derived from student level data;
- State-sponsored 1st year charters are eligible for K-3 reading support level weight.

Requires preschool children with disabilities to meet 216 hours over a minimum number of days.

Finance:

- DOE ADM computation moved from April 15 to August 30; Schools count notification moved from April 22 to September 15; and
- Previous fiscal year State Aid calculations must be finalized/budget limits adjusted by November 1.

Transport:

- Clarifies that an eligible student who is transported part by contract/part by school may not be counted as more than one eligible student; and
- Adds that miles driven to transport eligible students may not be reported by more than 1 school district.

An Amendments adopted by the Education Committee grants school districts eligibility for supplemental state aid if the district loses a qualifying amount of property tax revenue resulting from decreased assessed valuation due to a natural disaster.

Status: Passed the Senate 3/5; transmitted to the House and assigned to Committees on Education (passed 3/17); Ways & Means (passed 3/17), and Rules.

Student Discipline

HB 2453 synthetic drugs; reporting

Expands of the definitions of *dangerous drug* and *narcotic drugs* by adding additional synthetic substances and eliminates a reporting requirement relating to the sale of precursor or regulated chemicals.

Status: Ready for the Senate Committee of the Whole 3/11.

HB 2515 unlawful distribution of private images

Prohibits a person from knowingly promulgating photographs, videotape, film or digital recording of a person engaged in a sexual act or in a state of nudity without that person's written consent. Exemptions for law enforcement procedures; medical treatment; voluntary exposure.

Status: Passed the House 3/10; transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Public Safety (passed 3/19); and Rules.

Curriculum

HB 2144 school pupils; academic intervention

Revises ARS 15-341 (general powers and duties; immunity; delegation) to require a governing board to:

- maintain a confidential list of pupils with a grade-point average of 2.0 or lower on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent (beginning in SY 2016-2017);
- provide academic interventions to the pupils on the list until their grade-point average exceeds 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent; and
- determine the academic interventions.

Status: Passed by the House 2/27; transmitted to the Senate 3/4.

HB 2265 computer science courses; math credit

Allows school district governing boards to approve a computer science course to fulfill a required math course and directs the Board of Regents to accept approved computer science courses for university admissions if meet SBE's prescribed graduation requirements. An amendment passed in the Senate Education Committee adds requirements that a rigorous computer science course must meet in order to be approved as fulfillment for a mathematics course required for high school graduation.

Status: Passed the House 3/6; transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Education (passed 3/20); and Rules.

HB 2501 promotion; ceremony; 8th grade

Removes a governing board's authority to request certificates of promotion from the county school superintendent and allows school districts to conduct eighth grade promotion ceremonies

Status: Passed the House 2/25; transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Education (passed 3/20); and Rules.

SB 1242 critical languages; economic development; pilot

Authorizes SBE to establish a 6-year pilot program to develop and implement critical language courses; may use paraprofessionals to are native or heritage speakers; *Critical languages* defined as those languages described in the national security language initiative, including Chinese, Russian, French, Spanish, Japanese, Arabic and Portuguese. *Native or heritage speakers* means either persons who were born in a country where the critical language is the primary spoken language or persons whose parents were born in a country where the critical language is the primary spoken language.

Status: Ready for the House Committee of the Whole 4/1.

Safety

HB 2362 DPS; school bus rules oversight

Sets forth methods to provide written notice to persons on the school bus advisory council's mailing list.

Status: Passed the House 3/4 and transmitted to the Senate; assigned to Committees on Transportation (passed 3/18), and Rules.

School Operation

HB 2316 schools; local control; student privacy

- Prohibits SBE/ADE from:
 - adopting any federally mandated educational standards, curricula or instructional approaches;
 - applying for any federal grant that requires, as a condition of application, the adoption of any federally developed educational standards, curricula or instructional approaches.
- ADE may provide guidance and technical assistance to schools, but may not require the adoption of specific curricula or instructional approaches.
- Requires:
 - “transparent public rulemaking process” to make changes to the state academic standards
 - student data collection to be designed to protect student/family privacy
 - standardized test subject matter to comply with “generally accepted moral, civic and ethical values.”

An amendment was passed in the Senate Education Committee that eliminates the prohibition of certain subject matter in test questions and makes other changes regarding personal information and public review of state academic standards.

Status: Passed the House 3/10. Transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Education (passed 3/20); and Rules.

HB 2319 school boards; nonprofit organizations; formation

Allows a school district governing board to assist in the legal formation of nonprofit organizations that promote the educational mission of the school district.

Status: Passed by the House 3/5. Transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Education; Government & Environment, and Rules.

HB 2333 medical marijuana fund; education; intervention

A strike everything Amendment was passed in the House Health Committee. Now permits monies in the medical marijuana fund to be allocated to the biomedical research commission for marijuana research that is conducted in a university setting with the intent to conduct thorough, objective clinical research on the safety, efficacy and adverse events with marijuana.

Status: Passed by the House 3/10. Transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Education, and Rules.

HB 2438 schools; transporting district conversion

Allows a school district with less than 100 students enrolled for 3 years may petition to transport its students to another district.

Status: Ready for the Senate Committee of the Whole 3/17.

HB 2448 NOW: just compensation; tax credits

Formerly: study committee; contracting IT services [s/e 2]

Formerly: technical correction; legal opinions; schools [s/e 1]

A second strike everything amendment to HB 2448 was passed in the Senate Government and Environment Committee on 3/21. Revised Bill establishes a tax credit for a market value property diminution as the result of the implementation of a land use law.

Status: Assigned to Senate Committees on Government & Environment (passed 3/21), and Rules.

HB 2485 NOW: state library; electronic records

Formerly: technology-based language development software

A second strike everything amendment passed in the Senate Education and Appropriation Committees appropriates \$991,098 from the state General Fund (GF) in FY 2015 to establish, operate and maintain an electronic records repository within the State Library.

Status: Assigned to Senate Rules Committee 3/10.

HB 2539 task force; physical education

Establishes a task force on best practices in physical education and behavior management; membership criteria; review, consideration and adoption of task force recommendations.

Status: Passed the House 3/4. Transmitted to the Senate and assigned to Committees on Education (held 3/20), and Rules.

SB 1049 duty to report abuse; records

Allows, instead of requires, a school to maintain a written record of an abuse incident.

Status: Passed the House Committee of the Whole 3/31.

SB 1199 school board members; school employment

Prohibits a governing board from District employment for 24 months after leaving office.

Status: Passed the Senate and transmitted to the House 2/28; assigned to Committees on Education, and Rule 3/10.

SB 1226 NOW: predominant aggressor; arrest; domestic violence

Formerly: fingerprint clearance cards; human trafficking

A strike everything amendment was passed in the House Committee on Public Safety, Military & Regulatory Affairs. Revised Bill now prescribes procedures for peace officers in evaluating acts of domestic violence.

Status: Amended Bill passed the House Committee of the Whole 4/1.

SB 1288 school letter classification; science scores

SBE directed to separately compute the percentage of pupils who meet or exceed the standard on the science portion of AIMS; it may add a plus symbol to the letter grade assigned if sufficient numbers of the students meet or exceed the standard on the science portion.

Status: Passed the House Committee of the Whole 3/31.

SB 1389 medical marijuana fund; education programs

Uses Medical Marijuana Fund (Fund) monies to discourage marijuana use among the general population, especially persons under 24 through public health education programs and specifies other requirements for the use of the monies in the Fund. Contains requirements for enactment for initiatives and referendums (Proposition 105).

Status: Bill was amended in the Senate Committee of the Whole on 3/5 to limit the monies in the Medical Marijuana Fund to be spent on programs that discourage recreational marijuana use. The amended Bill failed to pass Senate 3/17.

SB 1395 schools; competency requirements; assessments; optional

Permits a District/Charter to opt out of any competency requirements or instrument to measure standards test and:

- are not subject to any financial penalty; and
- must administer an annual assessment to measure the extent to which students have met the adopted academic standards.

Removes *AIMS intervention*, defines *Instrument to Measure Standards test intervention*.

Status: Failed the Senate on a 12-17-1 vote on 3/17.

SB 1396 schools; competency requirements; assessments

Districts/Charters:

- must adopt and submit a course of study incorporating academic standards that meet or exceed the standards adopted by the state board of education for use during or after the 1998-1999 school year.
- must annually implement an instrument to measure standards test in reading, writing and mathematics in at least four Board-designated grades;
- may administer assessments in social studies and science
- may not require students to meet/exceed those standards

Failure to adopt/submit standards face financial penalty.

Status: Failed the Senate on a 12-17-1 vote on 3/17.

Buildings/Property

SB 1100 schools; unused or underused buildings

Establishes numerous requirements related to vacant and “underused” school buildings, including:

- Requires school buildings that were vacant in FY 2013 and buildings operating at less than 50% of the SFB capacity in FY 2012 and FY 2013 to be sold or leased to a charter school or private school. After one year, if no school makes an offer, a vacant building must be sold to the highest bidder.
- Requires school districts to sell or lease a building or part of a building that has been unused for two consecutive years to the lessee or the purchaser of the district’s choice, if a charter school or private school notifies the district of its desire to lease or purchase the building.
- Prohibits a school district from leasing a vacant school building to itself or an entity affiliated with that school district.

Status: Retained on the Senate Committee of the Whole’s Calendar 3/3 and 3/6.

SB 1102 school facilities board revisions

- Specifies that:
 - the SFB building database must include all buildings that are owned by school districts.
 - square footage used solely for district administration, storage of vehicles and other nonacademic purposes must be excluded from the net, rather than the gross, square footage when determining minimum adequacy standards.
 - routine preventative maintenance for school facilities includes services recommended by the manufacturer of the specific building system or equipment.
- Requires school districts to include in their building reports any school or school buildings that have been closed, leased to another entity or that operate as a charter school.
- Eliminates language specifying the SFB must inventory and inspect all school buildings in the state in order to develop a database for the administration of the Building Renewal Grant Fund and the New School Facilities formula.

Status: Passed the Senate 3/3. Retained on the House Committee of the Whole Calendar 4/1.

SB 1123 property; liability; schools; recreational users

Specifies that students who are registered at a school and who are in transit to or from the school are not considered recreational users of school grounds.

Status: Ready for the House Committee of the Whole 3/13.

School Elections

SB 1293 publicity pamphlets; disclosure

Requires inclusion of estimated tax impacts in publicity pamphlets for municipal, county and special taxing district bond elections. Modifies the form of required informational reports for school budget override elections as well as the informational pamphlet required for bond elections in any state political subdivision.

Amendments passed by the House prior to final passage include:

- A prescribed format to be used by election materials in disclosing the effect that a successful election would have on property tax. The amendment links property types and estimated tax effects to the classifications described in statute and adds a class four single family rental residence to the list of property types that must be disclosed on election materials;
- The literature or advertisement shall also include the following statement: "notice: pursuant to Proposition 105 (1998), this measure can never be changed in the future if approved on the ballot except by a three-fourths vote of the legislature and if the change furthers the purpose of the original ballot measure, or by referring the change to the ballot." and
- A requirement for publicity pamphlets for municipal elections to specifically state the amount of sales tax increase proposed, if applicable.

Status: Passed the House Committee of the Whole 4/1.

Child Welfare

SCR 1003 initiatives; referendum measures; periodic reauthorization

Proposed constitutional amendment requiring initiatives and referendums that require the expenditure of public monies or affect State general fund revenues or expenditures to be re-authorized every eight years. Applies retroactively to previous ballot measures approved after 11/3/1998. Requires a financial and performance audit and analysis and policy evaluation of each measure in the year before a reauthorization vote takes place, which must be made available to voters. The evaluation shall include a recommendation by the Auditor General on whether the measure should be reauthorized.

Status: Failed 15-14-1 on the House Third Read 3/12.