



CAPITOL REPORT: FULL STEAM AHEAD

Review of Feb. 12-16, 2018

Community schools, hold harmless bills

Last week at was a busy one at the legislature, as it appears things are running at full steam from here on out. Some bills of interest advanced out of committee, while others were delayed for future votes.

The **community schools** bill was rolled a week to ensure all concerns of committee members were addressed. **A bill to hold teachers harmless for the pre-k and kindergarten portfolios** was passed out of subcommittee, but amended to change its application. It's possible further changes are made to it in full committee.

There are lengthy calendars moving forward, so efforts will be made to only list and describe those with high visibility. Please note on positions, a new designation is being introduced for **AMEND**, which means TEA does not oppose the concept of the bill, but is seeking some changes.

Tuesday, 2/20/18

Senate Finance- 8:30AM- SHR I

- SB1647/HB1592 (Watson/Sargent)- DEFERRED- Makes changes to the pension stabilization trusts.
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House Ed A&P- 9AM, HHR III

- HB2060/SB2571 (Smith/Hensley)- DEFERRED- Establishes a three year pilot for six schools to participate in a program to improve parent-teacher engagement in grades K-2.
- HB501/SB481 (Pitts/Green)- SUPPORT- Adds three RTI positions for each school to the BEP.

House Ed I&P- Noon, HHR I

- HB2247/SB1835 (Faison/Southerland)- SUPPORT- Requires that at least 30% of all questions on state mandated tests be non-redundant items that have not

appeared on the test in the last two years. Changes current requirement of 70% in the last four years in grades 3-8 and last three years in high school.

- HB1686/SB1854 (Smith/Massey)- SUPPORT- States results of the pre-k/kindergarten pilot cannot be sole basis for employment decisions in 17/18 SY. Directs the DOE to engage in broader engagement with practitioners concerning rollout and implementation.

State Government- Noon- HHR II

- HB187/SB2241 (Hawk/Norris)- SUPPORT- Reestablishes that a state employee may be eligible for pre-65 retiree health insurance if they work for an LEA, and vice versa, rather than having to spend their whole career with one or the other. Establishes trusts to fund this liability for school employees, rather than just state employees.

House Ed A&P Sub- 3PM, HHR V

- HB1595/SB2582 (Butt/Hensley)- DEFERRED- Reduces, from aggravated assault to an assault resulting in bodily injury, the offense for which a student must be expelled from school for a period of not less than one calendar year if the offense is committed against a school employee.
- HB1495/SB2140 (Casada/Gresham)- DEFERRED- As introduced, requires an LEA that unsuccessfully sues the state to pay reasonable costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney fees, attributable to the defense of the state.
- HB2049/SB2052 (Ragan/Crowe)- SUPPORT- Removes cap on sick leave that may be used by an educator who is a reservist and is called into active duty.
- HB2277/SB2094 (Brooks, K/Dickerson)- SUPPORT- Permits the financial literacy commission to establish a grant program to promote financial literacy and to designate certified financial literacy teachers and make annual incentive payments to such teachers if they have successfully completed a financial literacy course, incorporated the course into their classroom instruction, and administered financial literacy assessments

Wednesday, 2/21/18

House Finance Sub- 10:00 AM- HHR III

- HB1529/SB1804 (Terry/Ketron)- SUPPORT- Exempts teachers from states with reciprocity agreements from having to take the Praxis to get a TN teaching license if they receive a 4 or 5 evaluation for two years.
- HB1460/SB1626 (Smith/Gresham)- SUPPORT- Permits LEAs to establish recovery high schools

House I&P Sub- 1:30PM- HHR II

- HB2164/SB1510 (Moody/Massey)- SUPPORT- Requires instruction on detection, intervention, prevention, and treatment of child sexual abuse into the family life curriculum.
- HB2335/SB2453 (Cooper/Harper)- SUPPORT- Establishes the “Transparency in Charter School Finance Act.”
- HB1855/SB1806 (Rudd/Ketron)- SUPPORT- Prohibits any state mandated assessments not in use during the 16-17 SY through the 21-22 SY.
- HB1685/SB1625 (Smith/Gresham)- MONITOR- Relative to RTI, broadly captioned.
- HB1699/SB1663 (Love/Dickerson)- SUPPORT- Permits excess instructional time to be used for IEP meetings, school-wide or LEA-wide planning meetings
- HB1988/SB2039 (Kumar/Gresham)- OPPOSE- Requires each high school student to receive a Scholars Prep Guide upon registering for any course.
- HB1463/SB1605 (Forgety/Dickerson)- DEFERRED- Changes provisions related to sharing student information with LEAs, charter schools or chartering authorities.
- HB1577/SB1805 (Forgety/Ketron)- SUPPORT- Provides LEAs at least 15 days to verify any assessment and accountability data prior to that data being made public.
- HB1922/SB2663 (Forgety/Bailey)- SUPPORT- Requires the department of education to provide assessment results no later than two weeks after submission by the LEA.

House State Government Sub- 1:30PM- HHR IV

- HB1592/SB1647 (Sargent/Watson)- DEFERRED- Makes changes to pension stabilization trusts.

Senate Ed- 2:30PM- SHR I

- SB2011/HB2009 (Gresham/Goins)- AMEND- Creates cause of action against a director of schools for failure to report certain criminal convictions of teachers. Also grants new powers to the state board of education (SBE) to issue reprimands, suspend or revoke teaching licenses, including for violations of the teacher code of ethics.
- SB2012/HB2099 (Gresham/Reedy)- SUPPORT- Requires final licensure action to be transmitted the NASDTEC national clearinghouse and to be posted to the SBE website.
- SB2013/HB2165 (Gresham/Goins)- AMEND- Expands the teacher code of ethics to include numerous new provisions. Concerning new provisions include language around professionalism, administering state tests, and mandatory reporting suspected any violations by other teachers.
- SB2014/HB1997 (Gresham/Brooks, H)- AMEND- Requires school employees to pay for their own background checks every five years.

- SB2015/HB2433 (Gresham/White, M)- SUPPORT- Prohibits LEAs from entering into non-disclosure agreements for any act of sexual misconduct.
- SB1805/HB1577 (Ketron/Forgety)- SUPPORT- See above description.
- SB1806/HB1855 (Ketron/Rudd)- SUPPORT- See above description.
- SB2453/HB2335 (Harper/Cooper)- SUPPORT- See above description.
- SB239/HB2472 (Dickerson/Love)- SUPPORT- Community schools bill.
- SB1838/HB2205 (Gresham/Byrd)- SUPPORT Requires that information provided to the SBE upon appeal for a denial of a charter application be the same as was provided to the LEA.
- SB1623/HB1981 (Gresham/Smith)- MONITOR- Prohibits the use of the any test to measure postsecondary readiness if there were any problems in its administration (very likely to be amended).

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