



CAPITOL REPORT: Final calendars, CIVICATION & more

Review of March 12-16, 2018

A number of House subcommittees and Senate committees take up their final calendars this week, as we round into the home stretch for the 110th General Assembly. There are still several big bills advancing their way through committees, so there is a lot of action left in the next couple weeks. We invite you to register for and attend the [TEA CIVICATION](#) on Tuesday of your spring break.

Highlights of last week included several TEA priorities advancing through committee, and the first voucher fight of the year being delayed a week.

The TEA-backed community schools bill moved out of House education, and the kindergarten/pre-k portfolio hold harmless bill also passed out of House education. The suite of licensure bills continues to receive a lot of discussion as TEA presses for assurances teachers will have robust due process if the powers of the State Board of Education are expanded to take action on licenses for a wide array of offenses, many of which do not involve student safety. The bills will be heard in full education in the House this week.

A bill dramatically expanding the IEA special education voucher was rolled in both the House and Senate, delaying the session's first voucher fight until this week.

Another TEA-opposed bill that would prevent teachers from serving on county commissions was rolled two weeks in the House.

Here is a rundown of some bills of note coming up this week:

Monday, 3/19 **House Floor- 4PM**

- HB2164/SB1510 (Moody/Massey)- SUPPORT- Requires instruction on detection, intervention, prevention, and treatment of child sexual abuse into the family life curriculum.

Tuesday, 3/20 **House Ed A&P- 9AM, HHR III**

- HR192 (Hawk)- SUPPORT- Changes BEP formula to include funding for RTI positions.

- HB75/SB578 (Kane/Gresham)- SUPPORT- Affirms due process for educators who receive licensure action from the state board. Provides expedited appeals to chancery court.
- HB2009/HB2011 (Goins/Gresham)- 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.
- HB2165/SB2013 (Goins/ Gresham)- 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.

Senate State and Local Government- 10:30AM SHR I

- SB2153/HB2158 (Bell/Keisling)- OPPOSE- Disqualifies all county employees, including teachers, from serving on county commissions.

House Ed I&P- Noon, HHR I

- HB1888/SB2158 (Lollar/Bell)- SUPPORT- Authorizes the comptroller to audit charter management organizations.
- HB1778/SB1896 (Kane/Gresham)- Alters Course Access Program Act, makes state board the authorizing agent instead of the LEA, among other things.

House Civil Justice- 3PM, HHR III

- HB2208/SB2563 (Byrd/Hensley)- OPPOSE- Permits selected school employees to be armed, provided they meet certain qualifications and agree to carry weapons.
- HB2129/SB2059 (Van Huss/Green)- SUPPORT- Provides for additional SROs at schools and school functions.

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

- HB1282/SB1068 (Love/Yarbro)- SUPPORT- Requires a report on efforts to attract and retain minority educators to the profession.
- HB2003/SB2587 (Terry/Hensley)- SUPPORT- Allows teachers receiving high eval scores to avoid negative consequences for evaluations for future years. Meant to protect teachers who change content areas/grade levels or move to challenging schools
- HB2289/SB2125 (Carter/Gardenhire)- DEFERRED- Changes definition of teacher, even for purposes of funding, to mean anyone spending at least 75% working directly with students.
- HB2474/SB2610 (Moody/Gresham)- OPPOSE- Expands IEA special ed voucher to all students with an IEP.

- HB2144/SB2588 (Hill, M/Hensley)- SUPPORT- Requires that an MOU be reached for in systems engaged in PECCA, removes bad faith language allowing LEAs to avoid the process altogether.
- HB2088/SB2429 (Parkinson/Kyle)- SUPPORT- Sunsets the ASD and establishes process for return of schools currently in ASD to their home LEA.

Wednesday, 3/21

House Finance Sub- 9AM, HHR III

- HB2472/SB2393 (Love/Dickerson)- SUPPORT- Community schools bill
- HB2060/SB2571 (Smith/Hensley)- SUPPORT- Establishes three year pilot program for parent teacher engagement in grades K-2.

Senate State and Local Government- 9:30AM, SHR I

- SB2153/HB2158 (Bell/Keisling)- OPPOSE- See above description

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

- HB2238/SB1498 (Faison/Southerland)- SUPPORT- Requires year of error-free administration of state tests prior to use in teacher evals.

Senate Ed- 2:00PM, SHR I

- SB2196/HB2272 (Swann/Pitts)- SUPPORT- Requires the hiring of one social worker per school.
- SB2158/HB1888 (Bell/Lollar)- SUPPORT- See above description
- SB1854/HB1686 (Massey/Smith)- SUPPORT- Provides that portfolio data not be sole basis for termination or compensation decisions for current school year for pre-k/kindergarten teachers. Requires department of ed to get feedback from all teachers using portfolio this year.
- SB2125/HB2289 (Gardenhire/Carter)- DEFERRED- See above description
- SB2453/HB2335 (Harper/Cooper)- SUPPORT- Enacts transparency in charter school finance act.
- SB2429/HB2088 (Kyle/Parkinson)- SUPPORT- See above description
- SB2588/HB2144 (Hensley/Hill, M)- SUPPORT- See above description
- SB2610/HB2474 (Gresham/ Moody)- OPPOSE- See above description
- SB2039/HB1988 (Gresham/ Kumar)- OPPOSE- See above description

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