

Legislative Update

6/21/11

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

South Carolina School Board Association

Go to www.scsba.org

- Click on Advocacy
- Click on Legislation
- Run Search Engines for Bills

State House

Go to www.scstatehouse.gov

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Charter School Bill (H.324)

Highlights

- ✓ Supports State Charter and Virtual Schools from state funds
- ✓ Change to a simple majority vote to convert from public to charter school
- ✓ Includes provisions for charter, private, or home school students to participate in athletics or extra-curricular activities

Aiken County School Board Position

- ✓ Oppose change to a simple majority vote to convert from public to charter school
- ✓ Not in favor of provisions for athletics or extra-curricular activities

Status - No update (As of 6/19/11)

- ✓ House - Passed (2/24/11)
- ✓ Senate - Senate read second time on 6/1/11. (6/5/11)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Education Finance Act Refo

- **Highlights**

- ✓ Districts must spend 70% of operating budget on instruction, instructional support, and pupil services
- ✓ Removes required teacher salary step increases

- **Aiken County School Board Position**

- ✓ Support consolidation of line items if it provides flexibility and does not reduce funding
- ✓ Support removal of required salary step increases and flexibility not to maintain local supplements

- **Status** - No update (As of 6/19/11)

- ✓ House - Passed (3/9/11)
- ✓ Senate - Meet cross-over deadline by 5/1/11. Committed to Senate Committee on Finance. Senate decided that more work needs to be done on weighting formulas in both version of the Bill. (5/8/11)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

School Choice (H.3407 /

Highlights

- ✓ Vouchers / tax credits for private schools and home schooled children
- ✓ Scholarships for at-risk students

Aiken County School Board Position

- ✓ Board position summed up by Superintendent's succinct comment at Board Workshop, *"Public Education is the backbone of American democracy and that public schools are where the public funds for education should go."*

Status - No update (As of 6/19/11)

- ✓ House - House voted to table on 5/25/11. (6/5/11)
- ✓ Senate - Did not meet cross-over deadline by 5/1/11. Education Committee voted to kill senate version of Bill. Bill will stay in committee this year. (5/8/11)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Point of Sale (H.3713 / S.64)

Highlights

- ✓ If property value at time of sale is greater than most recent assessment, allows exemption in the amount of the fair market value of property sufficient to eliminate increase in property value

Aiken County School Board Position

- ✓ No formal position taken at this time

Status - See update (As of 6/19/11)

- ✓ House- Concurred with Senate amendment and enrolled. (6/5/11)
- ✓ Senate - Amended and passed Senate on third reading. Returned to House with amendment. (6/5/11)
- ✓ Signed by Governor on 6/14/11. (6/19/11)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Miscellaneous Items

Budget Conference Committee

- ✓ Reached Compromise on 6/16/11:
 - ✓ Projected Base Student Cost \$1,880
 - ✓ Reduced K-5 lottery funds from \$41M to \$29M
- ✓ Committee will reconvene on 6/22/11 to formally adopt, then on to full House and Senate.
- ✓ General Assembly will address Governor's budget vetoes week of 6/27/11.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Miscellaneous Items

Budget Conference Committee (cont'd)

- ✓ Index of Taxpaying Ability (ITA)
 - ✓ Deletes ITA freeze from 2009.
 - ✓ Implements plan to impute values based on three-tiered plan under Act 388.
 - ✓ Proviso for District's to be held harmless if they will receive less funding from current year as a result of new calculation.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Common Core State Standards

- ✓ Define knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education to graduate and succeed in entry level college courses.
- ✓ Developed in collaboration with teachers, school administrators, and experts to provide framework to prepare students for college.
- ✓ Sponsored by National Governors Council and Chief State School Officers.
- ✓ Adopted by 48 states.
- ✓ Adopted by South Carolina on 6/14/2010.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

South Carolina Department (SC DOE) Common Core State Standards Initiative

Proviso 1.100 (House and Senate Versions)

- ✓ No funds to be extended by state agencies to promote Common Core State Standards Initiative until SC DOE Report issued by 1/6/12.
- ✓ Report will:
 - ✓ Analyze cost of Initiative
 - ✓ Compare current to proposed assessments
 - ✓ Identify changes required to current standards to meet proposed standards
 - ✓ Report on where SC compares to other states in implementation
- ✓ Budget Conference Committee deleted Senate version of this proviso which would have prevented further participation in Common Core Standards.