



ALLIANCE LEGISLATIVE REPORT (95-6)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMPLETES BUSY WEEK

The Illinois General Assembly completed a busy week in the capitol on Thursday. With hundreds of bills scheduled for committee hearings this week, and with the Governor delivering his State of the State/Budget Address on Wednesday, it made for a hectic pace.

Both the House of Representatives and the Senate are scheduled to return to Springfield next Tuesday through Thursday. The deadline for Senate bills to be considered by a committee is Thursday; the House has an additional week before its committee deadline.

BILL EXPANDS DEFIBRILLATOR MANDATE

The House Executive Committee approved a bill this week that will expand the law that requires schools to have accessible Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs). **HB 1279 (Burke, D-Chicago)** will require school districts to have AEDs on site at all *outdoor* athletic facilities (baseball diamonds, football fields, soccer fields, etc.). The original law only required the equipment near indoor facilities.

The bill, opposed only by the Alliance, would require an AED to be housed in a building that is within 300 feet of the outdoor athletic facility where “an event or activity” is being conducted. If there is no such building, the person responsible for supervising the activity shall ensure that an AED is available during the time of the event or activity. Generally, all coaches that conduct practices or have games outside will have to be a trained AED user and will have to have an AED on hand at every practice and game.

The bill moved to the floor of the House of Representatives for further consideration.

OTHER BILL ACTION THIS WEEK

SB 48 (Maloney, D-Chicago) increases the threshold required for school districts to competitively bid contracts from \$10,000 to \$25,000. **The bill was approved** by the Senate and was sent to the House.

SB 79 (Garrett, D-Lake Forest) provides that, in the development of the individualized education program for a student who has a disability on the autism spectrum, the IEP team shall consider and shall specifically address certain factors. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate floor for consideration.

SB 143 (Collins, D-Chicago) would require non-public schools to perform the same background checks of employees as public schools now provide. **The bill was approved** by the Senate and was sent to the House for consideration.

SB 153 (Sieben, R-Geneseo) allows a teacher to establish credit for certain leaves of absence due to pregnancy under the Teachers’ Retirement System. **The bill was approved** by the Senate and was sent to the House for consideration.

SB 198 (Garrett), as amended, would increase the personnel reimbursement amount for special education teachers from \$8,000 to \$14,000 by 2012, then index the amount to the Consumer Price Index. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate floor.

SB 266 (Crotty, D-Oak Forest) makes changes regarding the reimbursement for special education services provided in classes for children from orphanages, foster family homes, children's homes. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate floor.

SB 396 (Demuzio, D-Carlinville) provides that rights accorded to the parents of an 18 year old special education student transfer to the child at 18 with certain restrictions. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate floor for consideration.

SB 398 (Demuzio) makes changes in reimbursement allowances for the costs of educating a disabled student who is placed residentially by the State. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate floor for consideration.

SB 505 (Cullerton, D-Chicago) provides that the School Construction Grant Program grant index may be increased by 0.05% for school construction projects that receive certification from the United States Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System, the Green Building Initiative's Green Globes Green Building Rating System, or that meet green building standards of the Capital Development Board and its Green Building Advisory Committee on or before January 1, 2009. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate floor for consideration.

SB 543 (Raoul, D-Chicago) requires parents of a child who is below the compulsory school age (age 7) and who is enrolled in kindergarten in a public school to cause the child to attend the public school. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate floor.

SB 641 (Demuzio) requires students entering school for the first time (either kindergarten or first grade) to have an eye examination in addition to the currently required health examination. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate floor for consideration.

SB 1165 (Demuzio) is an ISBE initiative to repeal several obsolete provisions in the School Code. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate floor.

SB 1426 (Murphy, R-Palatine) removes the exceptions for contracts for the purchase of natural gas when the cost is less than that offered by a public utility and for utility services such as light and heat. It provides that a school board must award utility contracts, such as natural gas or electricity, involving an expenditure in excess of \$10,000 to the lowest responsible bidder but provides that if a school district joins a utility consortium, then that consortium must award utility contracts involving an expenditure in excess of \$10,000 to the lowest responsible bidder. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate floor for consideration.

SB 1428 (Sandoval, D-Chicago) adds school board members as mandated reporters of child abuse or child sexual abuse under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act and makes it a felony to knowingly violate the Act. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Judiciary Criminal Law Committee and was sent to the Senate floor for consideration.

SB 1463 (Lightford, D-Maywood) amends the Silent Reflection and Student Prayer Act to require (instead of allow) a teacher to observe a brief period of silence at the opening of every school day with the participation of all pupils assembled. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate floor for consideration.

SB 1482 (Lightford) requires a school board to allow a parent to observe the classroom instruction that his or her child is receiving as long as the parent does not pose a threat to the safety of any person in the school and the parent's presence is not disruptive to classroom learning. **The bill was approved** by the Senate Education Committee and was sent to the Senate floor for consideration.

HB 223 (Lindner, R-Aurora) amends the Educational Partnership Act to provide that public and private institutions of higher education that have approved teacher education programs may engage pre-service teacher candidates in the tutorial services provided for in the Act. It allows these students to receive compensation for such tutorial services while also receiving academic or clinical experience credit or both. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee.

HB 262 (Eddy, R-Hutsonville), as amended, provides that the Secretary of State may conduct random drug testing of applicants for instruction permits who are under the age of 18. The bill provides that the Secretary may not issue a permit to an applicant who tested positive for the presence of any controlled substance or cannabis. **The bill was approved** by the House Drivers Education and Safety Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

HB 425 (Coulson, R-Glenview), as amended, changes the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) law for school districts. The bill, instead of requiring a school to “adopt” an IPM program, requires a school to “develop and implement” a program; it requires the school to notify the Department of Public Health (DPH) of the development of the program; it requires a school to “assign a designated person” to assume responsibility for oversight of the IPM program; it requires that the designated person must attend a training course (if State funds are appropriated); it requires a school, if it finds that it is not economically feasible to adopt an IPM program, to provide written notification to DPH and include projected pest control cost comparisons; and it authorizes DPH to request copies of the school’s IPM program plans and notifications. **The bill was approved** by the House Agriculture and Conservation Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

HB 466 (Davis, M., D-Chicago) provides that a charter school may not have more campuses than the number of campuses it has on the effective date of this amendatory Act. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor.

HB 573 (Munson, R-Elgin) requires local government agencies (including school districts) to develop and implement an identity protection plan regarding the use of social security numbers. **The bill was approved** by the House and was sent to the Senate for consideration.

HB 693 (Sacia, R-Pecatonica), as amended, regarding legal custody for residency purposes, provides that a court order of guardianship is not required to establish the legal custody and states that a school district must require an adult claiming this type of legal custody to complete and sign an Attestation of Enrollment and Residency prior to enrollment of the pupil. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

HB 816 (Coulson), as amended, creates a Delegation of Rights to Make Educational Decision affidavit along with several provisions for the transfer of parental rights at the age of 18 for special education students. **The bill was approved** by the House and will be sent to the Senate for consideration.

HB 817 (Coulson), in the definition of "children with disabilities", provides that an eligible student who requires continued public school educational experience to facilitate his or her successful transition and integration into adult life is eligible for special education services through age 21, including until the day before the student's 22nd birthday. **The bill was approved** by the House and will be sent to the Senate for consideration.

HB 1238 (Watson, R-Jacksonville) allows a strobe lamp on a school bus to be lighted at any time when the bus is being used as a school bus with a pupil on board. **The bill was approved** by the House Transportation Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

HB 1330 (Yarbrough, D-Chicago) creates the Ensuring Success in School Law to ensure that youth who are parents, expectant parents, or the victims of domestic or sexual violence are identified by schools in a manner respectful of their privacy and safety, treated with dignity and regard, and

provided the protection, instruction, and related support services necessary to enable them to meet State educational standards and successfully attain a high school diploma. The bill contains many new burdensome requirements for school districts. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

HB 1335 (Flowers, D-Chicago) requires a school board to provide recess for all students in kindergarten through grade 6. As amended, the recess must occur once in the middle of each morning and once in the middle of each afternoon when school is in session. The bill is expected to be amended to apply to Chicago only. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor.

HB 1338 (Flowers) requires a school board to post in each school building the date of the last fire alarm inspection at the building and the capacity of the building. The bill is expected to be amended to apply to Chicago only. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

HB 1363 (Brauer, R-Petersburg) requires the State Board of Education to provide money for grants to the Illinois School Psychology Internship Consortium. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

HB 1917 (Boland, D-Moline) authorizes a school board to place an advisory question on the ballot by a majority vote of the board. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

HB 1922 (Moffitt, R-Galesburg) requires the ISBE to develop an agricultural education teacher training continuum and to provide grants to universities for agriculture education teacher education programs. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

HB 1926 (Stephens, R-Highland) requires the State Board to develop a weapons safety program for students and provides that school districts may incorporate the program into its curriculum. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

HB 1969 (Brauer, R-Petersburg) allows Rochester CUSD 3A to issue \$15,000,000 building bonds, with referendum approval and without debt limit effect. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

HB 2787 (Davis, W., D-Hazel Crest) provides that for high schools that have completed and submitted a Civic Audit, allows the regional superintendent to make grants for professional development of the school's staff from the Civic Education Trust Fund. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor.

HB 3491 (Jefferson, D-Rockford) provides that all school boards shall require all teachers and other school personnel to acquire, develop, and maintain the knowledge and skills necessary to properly administer CPR. **The bill was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

HR 115 (Tryon, R-Crystal Lake) establishes the School Impact Fee Task Force for the purpose of studying impact fees in Illinois. **The resolution was approved** by the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and was sent to the House floor for consideration.

BILLS SCHEDULED FOR COMMITTEE NEXT WEEK

***Note:** All bills that have been previously scheduled for hearing in both the House and Senate education committees, but have not yet been considered, are posted for a hearing this week. Those bills have been reported in earlier Alliance Legislative Reports. Below are the times of the education committee meetings this week, along with a few bills scheduled for hearing that bear repeating.

HOUSE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 14, 8:00 a.m., Room 114, State Capitol

HB 146 (Cross, R-Oswego) creates the Care of Students with Diabetes Act to: require a management and treatment plan for students seeking assistance with diabetes care in the school; require that upon receipt of the plan the principal and school nurse develop an individualized care plan with the student's parents or guardian; require that the principal seek out and assign employees that will serve as unlicensed diabetes care aides; require that at school and for all school sponsored activities the school must provide a nurse or unlicensed diabetes care aide to provide care; require the school to provide training for personnel regarding diabetes care prior to the beginning of each school year; and to require the school to provide those giving transportation to students with diabetes information. The bill places limitations on school districts regarding placement of students, provides parameters for self-administering of medications and monitoring, and provides immunity for all but willful and wanton conduct.

HB 1466 (Rita, D-Blue Island) authorizes the ISBE to appoint an academic oversight panel, and to establish school district academic authority panel in cases where the ISBE believes the district is having academic difficulty or guilty of mismanagement.

HB 1653 (Miller, D-Calumet City) allows school districts, by referendum, to remove property tax extensions for health/life safety purposes from coverage under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law.

HB 1680 (Yarbrough, D-Chicago) gives the regional superintendent authority to hire an inspector general to conduct audits on the use of school district funds, educate school board members on their roles, confirm the school district's need for referenda, and to investigate complaints of misconduct of school board members and district employees. It also gives the regional superintendent broader powers to remove a school board member; prohibits a school board member from holding any other public office; requires a district to establish a database listing all vendors who have contracts with the district; and makes other changes regarding school board member and district employee conflicts of interest.

HB 1847 (Phelps, D-Norris City) requires ESPs to be hired by the newly established school district in instances of consolidation or reorganization.

HB 1849 (Phelps) allows a school board to award a contract to a qualified local bidder if the bid does not exceed 2% over the lowest responsible bid received by the school board.

HB 1964 (Berrios, D-Chicago) would require by summer of 2008, for every school that has at least 50% of the students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, a summer food service program that would offer breakfast and lunch throughout the summer when school is not in session.

HB 3384 (Golar, D-Chicago) creates the Probationary School Oversight Committee to work with principals and staff to develop stringent guidelines to address school performance.

HB 3576 (McCarthy, D-Orland Park) removes the requirement that an annual statement of affairs summary be published in a newspaper.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 14, 2:30 p.m., Room 212, State Capitol

SB 671 (Maloney) sets forth a definition for legal responsibility regarding legal custody as it pertains to district residency.

SB 1472 (Kotowski, D-Mt. Prospect) creates the Internet Safety Education Act to inform and protect students from inappropriate or illegal communications and solicitation and to require school districts to provide education about Internet threats and risks.

Alliance Legislative Reports:
Bill Text/Status: Illinois General Assembly

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