



OVERVIEW

The Legislature held its fourth Interim Committee Week, November 1-5, 2021. The Senate Education Committee passed SB 270 (Funds for Student Transportation). SB 270 would change the 2-mile requirement to 1-mile for bus ridership eligibility. The change would cost school districts an additional \$184 million state-wide. The bill has two more committee stops before reaching the floor. Currently, there no House bill.

The other education committees met and focused on the following topics: Implementation of New World Reading Initiative (HB 3), and an overview of School/Education Choice for K-12 Students.

The Special Session the Governor called for asking the legislature to ban vaccine mandates and strengthen the Parents' Bill of Rights has been scheduled for the week of November 15th.

Please find below a summary of the Senate Committee & Subcommittee hearings this past week.

Senate Education Committee

SB 236 – Children with Developmental Delays by Jones: Children with Developmental Delays; Revising the definition of the term “exceptional student” to include additional students with developmental delays, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2022. **Passed, now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Education**

SB 268 – Proclamation of “Victims of Communism Day” by Diaz: Proclamation of “Victims of Communism Day”; Requiring the Governor to annually proclaim November 7 as “Victims of Communism Day”; requiring the day to be observed in public schools and by public exercise; requiring a day other than November 7 to be observed by public schools under a specified circumstance; requiring certain high school students to receive specified instruction on Victims of Communism Day, etc. Effective Date: Upon becoming a law. **Passed, now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Education**

SB 270 – Funds for Student Transportation by Hutson: Modifying requirements for determining student membership in a school district in order to determine the annual allocation for funding for student transportation, etc. Effective Date: 07/01/2022. **Passed, now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Education**

SB 318 – Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program by Rouse: Establishing the Florida Seal of Fine Arts Program within the Department of Education; specifying eligibility requirements for the awarding of a Seal of Fine Arts; requiring the Commissioner of Education and school districts to perform specified duties to administer the program; prohibiting a school district or the Department of Education from charging a fee for the seal, etc. Effective Date: 7/1/2022 **Passed, now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Education**

[Committee Video](#)
[Committee Packet](#)

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Education

- Did not meet

Please find below a summary of the House Committee & Subcommittee hearings this past week.

Education & Employment Committee

- Presentation on the Implementation of New Worlds Reading Initiative (HB 3)
[Committee Video](#)
[Committee Packet](#)

Early Learning & Elementary Education Subcommittee

- Presentation by OPPAGA on transparency requirements relating to curriculum and instruction and school district budgeting and accountability.
[Committee Video](#)
[Committee Packet](#)

Secondary Education & Career Development Subcommittee

- Presentation by OPPAGA on transparency requirements relating to curriculum and instruction and school district budgeting and accountability
[Committee Video](#)
[Committee Packet](#)

House Pre-K Appropriations Subcommittee

- Overview of School/Education Choice for K-12 Students
 - Update and Discussion on Fiscal Year 2021-2022 School Choice Enrollments and Funding for:
 - McKay Scholarship Program
 - Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program
 - Hope Scholarship Program
 - Florida Empowerment Scholarship Program
[Committee Video](#)
[Committee Packet](#)