



OVERVIEW

The Legislature held its eighth week of Session, February 28 - March 4, 2022. During the final days of Session, Committees are no longer meeting; therefore, the majority of the items are being presented on the Floor. Since the Legislature has not been able to come to an agreement on the Education Budget, primarily due to the \$200 million penalty, the budget has been bumped to the main Appropriation Chairs. The Budget Conference is expected to continue throughout the weekend. The budget conference must end by Tuesday, March 8, 2022, to comply with the seventy-two hour "cooling off" period before a final vote on the budget is made.

HB 1421 - (School Safety) passed this week: This bill modifies both state-level oversight of school safety requirements and school district-level emergency response procedures. The bill increases school safety oversight and accountability in the event of non-compliance of school safety requirements by a school district.

The following education bills of interest may pass during this Session:

HB 1467 - (Education) The bill would establish term limits for school board members; deleting a requirement that district school boards maintain a specified list on their websites; requiring certain meetings relating to instructional materials to be noticed and open to the public; revising requirements for the department relating to the development of training programs for the selection of materials used in schools and library media centers; revising district school board requirements for the selection and adoption of certain materials.

HB 1557 - (Parental Rights in Education) This bill is a continuation of last year's bill. The bill requires districts to provide more information to parents regarding their student's educational experience. The bill would also limit discussions regarding LGBTQ+ issues in PreK-3 classrooms. If districts violate the provisions of this bill, parents may sue school districts for

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damages and legal fees. The bill has passed the House and will be presented on Monday, March 7th on the Senate Floor.

SB 758/HB 865 - (Charter Schools) The bill would establish a Charter School Review Commission within the Department of Education. The Commission would be authorized to sponsor charter schools.

SB 1048/ HB 1193 - (Student Assessments): The bill would transition from the FSA to a student progress monitoring system. Elements of the accountability system, such as school grades, student retention, promotion, and teacher evaluations, would remain in place; however, the bill would establish a baseline in the first year for future improvement ratings.