

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

SB 310

2018 Regular Session

Claitor

May 18, 2018

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate and to the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning Senate Bill No. 310 by Senator Claitor, recommend the following concerning the Reengrossed bill:

- 1. That Legislative Bureau Amendment No. 1, proposed by the Legislative bureau and adopted by the House of Representatives on May 10, 2018, be adopted.
- 2. That House Committee Amendment Nos. 1 and 2 proposed by the House Committee on Education and adopted by the House of Representatives on May 10, 2018, be rejected.
- 3. That the following amendments to the reengrossed bill be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 5, between "requirements;" and "and to" insert "to provide for a penalty for noncompliance;"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, delete lines 1 through 6, and insert the following:

"(f) For any fiscal year in which the department fails to collect and report the required data, the state treasurer shall withhold an amount equal to twenty-five percent of the state general funds appropriated to the state Department of Education through the general appropriations bill for "STATE ACTIVITIES" which are allocated for travel expenses, until such time as the department complies with the provisions of this Paragraph."

Respectfully submitted,

Senators:

Representatives:

Senator Dan Claitor

Representative Walt Leger, III

Senator Dan "Blade" Morrish

Representative Nancy Landry

Senator Jack Donahue

Representative Rick Edmonds

The legislative instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeanne C. Johnston.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

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Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

KEYWORD. Provides relative to the collection and reporting of certain data regarding students with exceptionalities. (gov sig)

Report adopts House amendments to:

1. Make technical corrections.

Report rejects House amendments which would have:

1. Required the department to annually report on the status of its compliance with present law reporting requirements relative to students with exceptionalities and removed the requirement that the commissioner of administration withhold funds from the department for failure to comply with present law reporting requirements.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Require the commissioner of administration to withhold an amount equal to twenty-five percent of the state general funds appropriated to the state Department of Education through the general appropriations bill for "STATE ACTIVITIES" which are allocated for travel expenses, for any fiscal year that the department fails to comply with the reporting requirements in present law relative to students with exceptionalities.
2. Remove requirement that the commissioner of administration withhold \$100,000 from the department's annual state general fund appropriation for failure to comply with present law reporting requirements relative to students with exceptionalities.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

Present law requires the state Dept. of Education to establish a standardized data collection and analysis system to collect data from schools and school systems for the purpose of preparing and producing progress profile reports as required in present law. Provides that the purpose of the progress profiles is to establish a database for educational planning, increase accountability at all levels, provide information to parents of school children and the public about the status of education, to provide achievement and performance information to schools and colleges, and to foster a permanent and productive link between the elementary and secondary schools and the colleges and universities.

Present law requires the department to annually collect specific data for students with exceptionalities, excluding gifted and talented. Further requires for the collection and reporting of data for each disability classification in total and by race, gender, age, and sex.

Present law requires the department to annually compile a report that includes the data on each element gathered from the latest collection cycle and trend data from the three prior years. Requires the department to send the report to each public school governing authority and to publish it on the department's website.

Proposed law requires the the commissioner of administration to withhold an amount equal to twenty-five percent of the state general funds appropriated to the state Department of

Education through the general appropriations bill for "STATE ACTIVITIES" which are allocated for travel expenses, for any fiscal year that the department fails to comply with the reporting requirements in present law relative to students with exceptionalities.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 17:3911(B)(4)(f))