

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 462

2023 Regular Session

Edmonds

**SCHOOLS/FINANCE. Requires public school governing authorities to post certain fiscal information on their websites.**

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DIGEST

Present law (R.S. 17:88(A)) requires each city and parish school board to adopt, no later than Sept. 15th of each year, a budget for the general fund and each special revenue fund for the fiscal year. Specifies that the revenue/receipts shall be those normally expected from constitutional, statutory, and regular sources and shall not include probable revenues/receipts that may arise from doubtful or contingent sources.

Present law (R.S. 17:88(C)) requires each school board to submit to the state superintendent of education a copy of its adopted budget no later than Sept. 30th of each year. Requires that such budget include the same line items as prescribed by the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) for inclusion in the financial and statistical report as well as a general summary of the adopted budget. Further requires that the general summary include projected revenues and receipts, expenditures and disbursements, beginning fund and cash balances, and ending fund and cash balances.

Present law (R.S. 17:3996(G)) requires all charter schools to comply with present law (R.S. 39:1301-1315–La. Local Government Budget Act). Requires each Type 1, 3, 3B, and 4 charter school annually to submit its budget to the local school board that approved its charter, and requires the board to submit the charter school's budget to the state superintendent of education in accordance with present law (R.S. 17:88). Requires each Type 2 and Type 5 charter school annually to submit its budget directly to the state superintendent of education.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally requires each public school governing authority, no later than Sept. 30th each year, to post on its website the budget and general summary required pursuant to present law (R.S. 17:88).

Proposed law additionally requires each public school governing authority to post on its website reports detailing actual revenue, receipts, expenditures, and disbursements twice a year. Requires the reports to also include information concerning the governing authority's contracts for each quarter, including without limitation the identity of each vendor, the purpose of each contract, and payments associated with each contract.

Present law (R.S. 24:513 and R.S. 17:3996(F)) authorizes the legislative auditor to audit, under certain circumstances, and to receive reports and audits from certain local agencies, including public school governing authorities.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that within 30 days of notice of the approval and acceptance by the legislative auditor, each public school governing authority is required to post on its website its annual independent audit.

Proposed law requires each public school governing authority to furnish to the Dept. of the Treasury, subject to the deadlines and in the manner jointly prescribed by the treasurer and the state superintendent of education, the information posted by the governing authority pursuant to the provisions of proposed law. Requires the treasurer to post the information on the website of the Dept. of the Treasury. Subject to the availability of funds, requires the Dept. of the Treasury to provide an online tool for comparison of public school governing authority budgets and expenditures, in total and on a per-pupil basis.

Proposed law is applicable to all public schools, including charter schools.

(Adds R.S. 17:88.1 and 3996(B)(75))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the engrossed bill

1. Make technical changes.
2. Change dates for posting of reports.
3. Provide for the Dept. of Education to participate in prescribing reporting manner and deadline and developing the submission template.