

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 462

2023 Regular Session

Edmonds

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

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Moves deadline for a public school governing authority to post on its website its annual independent audit from Sept. 30th annually to within 30 days of notice of approval and acceptance by the legislative auditor.
2. Relative to proposed law requirement that each public school governing authority post on its website reports detailing certain financial information, changes frequency of posting of reports from quarterly to semiannually.
3. Relative to proposed law requirement that each public school governing authority furnish to the Dept. of the Treasury the budget, financial, and audit information posted by the governing authority pursuant to proposed law, requires submission subject to the deadlines in a manner *jointly* prescribed by the state superintendent of education and the treasurer instead of prescribed *solely* by the treasurer.
4. Removes proposed law requirement that, subject to the availability of funds, the Dept. of Treasury provide an online tool for comparison of public school governing authority budgets and expenditures, and instead requires the state Dept. of Education and Dept. of Treasury to *jointly* develop a template of submission of certain information.
5. Specifies proposed law is only effective in years for which an appropriation is made by the legislature for such purposes.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

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 semiannual reports detailing actual revenue, receipts, expenditures, and disbursements. 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 most recent 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 state superintendent of education and treasurer, 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. Requires the state Dept. of Education (DOE) and Dept. of the Treasury to jointly develop a template for the submission of information not already in the possession of DOE.

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

Proposed law is only effective for years in which an appropriation is made by the legislature for the purposes of implementing proposed law.

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