

From Tim

Sen. Macomber  
4/10/14

**Potential Amendments to Education Laws (4-9-14)  
Concepts Originating from Stakeholder Groups**

**I. Clarify and Reassign Responsibilities of SU Boards, Superintendents, and School Districts**

- to ensure that:
  - administrative and other non-policy-making responsibilities reside at the level where they can be performed most efficiently
  - SU and district boards are free to set goals and develop policy
  - activities are not duplicated
- (see reverse side for details)

**II. Require SUs to Collaborate to Provide Specific Services (purchasing, transportation, e.g.)**

- require each SU to work with at least one other SU to do so OR
- require the Secretary of Ed to establish mandatory multi-SU service regions for this purpose

**III. Impose Financial Consequences on Districts that Fail to Comply w/ Law (incl. I & II above)**

- use mechanism similar to the excess spending penalty, but base it on non-compliance – and not on budget increase / lost opportunity for savings / etc.

**IV. Require the State Board of Education (SBE) to Use its Authority to Revise SU Boundaries**

- to reduce the number / expand the size of supervisory unions

**V. Reduce / Eliminate the Use of Para-Educators for Purposes Other than Special Education**

- prohibit the use of Education Fund dollars for non-special education para-educators
- authorize use of federal / grant funds for these employees

**VI. Require All Districts to Make Prekindergarten Education Available**

- H.270
- delay implementation until the first fiscal year following the fiscal year in which statewide education spending per equalized pupil does not increase by more than the most recent NEEP cumulative price index plus one-tenth of one percent

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**VII. Encourage and Support AOE Efforts in Connection with Special Education**

- review and revise auditing procedures and technical guidelines
- research opportunities for flexible use of federal funding
- review and revise SBE rules and AOE regulations that impede best practices and/or cost effective strategies

## DETAILS

### I. Clarify and Reassign Responsibilities (primary duties listed below):

#### a. Supervisory Union (SOLE responsibility):

- i. provides professional development for all teachers in district
- ii. provides special education services to all districts (*no waivers*)
- iii. performs all financial / student data management and other business office services for the SU and districts
- iv. procures and distributes all goods including textbooks, office supplies, and cleaning supplies
- v. negotiates all collective bargaining agreements
- vi. provides / contracts for transportation for districts where available
- vii. is the HR office for all districts
- viii. manages & maintains (short-term and long-term) all buildings w/in SU

#### b. SU Board:

- i. establishes SU policies
- ii. establishes SU-wide curriculum
- iii. hires superintendent and all special educators (*but see c.iii below*)
- iv. develops SU budget

#### c. Superintendent (chief executive office for SU board & each district board):

- i. carries out board policies / ensures compliance by districts
- ii. prepares, for adoption by each board, plan to achieve board's goals
- iii. hires and fires as follows (*clarify and strengthen existing language*)
  1. nominates licensed SU/district employees for board to hire
  2. hires all nonlicensed SU/district employees
  3. dismisses all licensed and nonlicensed employees
- iv. provides and reports on data from SU and districts

#### d. School Districts:

- i. establishes educational policies of the district
- ii. takes any action required for sound administration of district except if the action is explicitly assigned to another individual / entity
- iii. owns all buildings
- iv. relocate / discontinue use of building
- v. continues to have treasurer who writes checks, but superintendent is only individual / entity that authorizes the check writing
- vi. develops district budget
- vii. employ district employees (*but see c.iii above*)