

Potential Amendments to Education Laws (4-16-14)
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. 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*)