

Education Laws Enacted in Vermont

2003 to 2013

Compiled by the Vermont School Boards Association, the Vermont Superintendents Association and the Vermont Principals' Association

January 2014

2013

Act 56 (H.521) – **Miscellaneous Amendments**

Special Educator Employment Transition (Sec. 23–27)

- Clarifies and amends the process by which special education employees are to be employed by the supervisory union, instead of individual school districts. (Amends Act 153 of 2010; see above.)

Superintendent/Board Chair Training (Sec. 12–13)

- Requires annual joint training of at least eight hours for school board and supervisory union board chairs and superintendents. Superintendents are charged with organizing the training.

Teacher Advisory Groups (Sec. 19) [data collection]

- Directs the Secretary of Education to convene a working group consisting of VPA representatives and other interested parties to study existing teacher advisory groups around the state and publish best practices guidelines.

Act 60 (H.538) – **Education Funding Changes**

Excess Spending (Sec. 1–2)

- Lowers the excess spending threshold to 123 percent (from 125 percent) of the previous year's statewide average education spending per equalized pupil for FY15 and FY16; and further lowers it to 121 percent for FY17 and beyond.

Tuition Over/Undercharge (Sec. 3)

- Amends the rules according to which “receiving” school districts reimburse or charge “sending” school districts for tuition over- or undercharges.

Student-to-staff ratios (Sec. 5) [data collection]

- Directs the Secretary of Education to collect the necessary data from schools and supervisory unions to create a plan to establish minimum student-to-staff, student-to-administrator, student-to-classroom teacher, and student-to-teacher ratios at the school and the supervisory union level.

This document reflects an effort by the VSBA, VSA and VPA to create a list of legislation affecting public education in Vermont enacted between the years 2003 and 2013. If you notice any errors or omissions within this report, please contact Jeff Francis of the Vermont Superintendents Association by email at jfrancis@vtvsa.org

Act 68 (S.4) – **School Health**

Concussions

- Requires properly trained athletic trainers or other health care provider to be present at all high school collision sport competitions (football, hockey, lacrosse, wrestling).
- Schools have 24 hours to notify a concussed student's parent or guardian.
- Schools must develop concussion management action plans delineating the procedures the schools will undertake in the event of a concussion.
- Tightens training requirements for coaches and adds such requirements for referees.
- Directs the Vermont Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board to create an annual report on incidences of concussions in schools, in consultation with the VPA. [data collection]

Epinephrine Auto-Injectors (Sec. 4)

- Allows schools to maintain a stock supply of epinephrine auto-injectors and to authorize certain trained employees to administer them.
- Directs the State Board of Education to adopt policies that include a process for schools and parents to develop annually-updated, individualized allergy management plans; and requirements for education and training for school nurses or other designated personnel for responding to life-threatening allergic reactions.

Mental Health (Sec. 6) [data collection]

- Directs the Secretaries of Education and of Human Services to collect data from schools on mental health services currently provided, number of students receiving services, number of students *not* receiving services who need them, and costs of providing these services.

Act 77 (S.130) – **Flexible Pathways**

Dual Enrollment

- Allows all students who are eligible to take up to two publicly-funded dual enrollment courses before graduating from high school, offered either at the secondary or at the postsecondary school.
- After FY14 and FY15, all schools will be responsible for the entire cost of courses offered at the high school and for 50 percent of the cost of courses offered at the college. The rates will be pegged to the CCV tuition rate.

Early College (Sec. 8–11)

- Allows for the expansion of Early College programs for high school seniors; these students are not counted in their districts' ADM.

Personalized Learning Plans

- Requires schools, on a rolling basis beginning in the fall of 2015, to implement personalized learning plans for all students in grades 7 through 12 that are “developmentally appropriate” and “reflect the student’s emerging abilities, aptitude, and disposition.”
- Plans are to be updated annually by the student, a school representative, and a parent or guardian if the student is a minor.

High School Completion Program (Sec. 5)

- Renames the “graduation education plan” the “High School Completion Plan” and removes the 22-year-old upper age limit. (Students must be at least 16.)
- The Secretary will assign non-enrolled students who wish to work on a personalized learning plan leading to graduation through this program to a high school district.
- Districts “in which a student is enrolled or to which a non-enrolled student is assigned shall work with the contracting agency and the student to develop a personalized learning plan. (The amount that districts will be reimbursed for non-enrolled students is to be determined by the Secretary.)

PLP Working Group (Sec. 13)

- Directs the Secretary of Education to convene a working group—comprised of teachers, principals, superintendents, and other interested parties—to support the implementation of the personal learning plan process and to publish guiding principles and practical tools to facilitate that process.

2012

Act 129 (H.771) – Miscellaneous Amendments

High School Choice (Sec. 34–37)

- Students attending Vermont public high schools may apply to attend any public high school in the state beginning in 2013-14.
- School boards may set limits if they wish, with the minimum limit being 10 percent of high school students or 40 students, whichever number is lower.

Harassment, Hazing, and Bullying (Sec. 12–13)

- All school boards must adopt a bullying prevention policy at least as stringent as the Commissioner of Education’s model policy. (They already must do so for hazing and harassment policies.)

- An Advisory Council established by the Commissioner will review and coordinate statewide and school activities related to harassment, hazing, and bullying prevention and report to the legislature annually.

S. U. Duties (Sec. 2, 19)

- Supervisory unions will provide financial and data management services on behalf of their member districts.
- Supervisory unions will arrange for annual audits for the s. u. its member districts, as opposed to districts managing their own audits.

Act 151 (S.245) – **CPR and AED Education**

- “Comprehensive health education” must include information on CPR resuscitation and AEDs.
- The Commissioner of Education will electronically query superintendents and principals regarding whether and to what extent this information is offered in schools statewide.

Act 154 (S.95) – **Payroll Withholding** (Sec. 3)

- School district employees may elect to have a set amount or set percentage of their wages withheld in a district-controlled account for disbursement during summer months.

Act 156 (S.113) – **Miscellaneous Changes**

Mergers

- Builds on Act 153 of 2010 (see above) incentives for school district mergers and adds incentives for supervisory union mergers.

Child Abuse (Sec. 29)

- An employee of a school must be in the room during the provision of all instruction on how to recognize and prevent sexual abuse and sexual violence.

Act 157 (S.199) – **Vaccination Rate Reporting**

- School districts must annually report aggregated immunization rates for all grades to the public and the Department of Health, as well as additional specific information on immunization rates for 1st and 8th grade students.
- A working group is formed to study how to protect immunocompromised students.

Act 171 (H.559) – **Healthcare Reform**

- Employers with fewer than 50 employees must join the healthcare exchange in 2014 unless they meet certain grandfathering provisions. Employers with fewer than 100 employees must join in 2016.

2011

Act 20 (H.430) – **Mentoring**

- Requires superintendents, in consultation with the Vermont Principals' Association, to ensure that newly-hired principals and technical center directors receive mentoring for at least two years *if they have not previously worked in that capacity*.
- Mentoring supports are to be based on best practices guidelines and will be identified by the VPA and the Vermont Superintendents Association.
- A committee is created to study how the education profession inducts and mentors new teachers; the committee will study and evaluate the practices and programs currently in effect throughout Vermont.

Act 31 (S.2) – **Abuse Registries**

- Superintendents must obtain information from the Child Protection Registry and the Vulnerable Adult Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation Registry for all prospective employees, contractors who may have unsupervised contact with children, or any other person for whom a criminal record check is already required.

Act 43 (H.38) – **Interstate Compact**

- School districts must accommodate the children of active duty military personnel.

Act 58 (S.100) – **Miscellaneous Amendments**

Concussions

- Requires the Commissioner of Education, with assistance from the VPA, to develop guidelines and materials to educate coaches, athletes, and parents on concussions and other head injuries.
- Principals are required to ensure that the guidelines are provided to parents and athletes; that parents sign a form acknowledging receipt of these guidelines; and that all coaches receive concussion symptom training at least every two years.

Technology [data collection]

- The Department of Education will gather information on each school's type of Internet service, connection speed, service provider, and projected upgrades.

Act 63 (H.441) – **Appropriations Bill**

- General Fund transfer to Education Fund—\$276 million for FY12—is permanently reduced by the \$23.2 million *Challenges for Change* voluntary targeted reduction for school districts.
- The Education Fund is permanently responsible for covering educational costs of operating the Community High School of Vermont—\$4.3 million in FY12.

Act 68 (S.92) – **Green Cleaning**

- Requires schools to use environmentally friendly cleaning products.

2010

Act 68 (S.286) – **Challenges for Change** (Sec. 6)

- Lays out the *Challenges for Change* legislative intent, including reducing administration costs and cutting education spending.

Act 87 (H.408) – **Afterschool and Summer Meals**

- After school programs funded by 21st Century Learning Center grants must offer snacks, using federal funds. If requested by the program, a school within the district must provide fiscal sponsorship for the snack program. School boards may apply to the Department of Education for a waiver.
- School districts must offer a summer snacks or meals program—funded by the Summer Food Service or the National School Lunch program—if they operate a summer program for at least 15 hours per week and at least one school in the district has a student population at least 50 percent of which is eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

Act 133 (H.709) – **Prekindergarten–16 Council**

- A council is created to help coordinate and better align the efforts of pre-k, k–12 and higher education in Vermont. A principal and a superintendent, selected by the VPA and the VSA, will be members of the 16-person council.

Act 146 (H.792) – **Challenges for Change Implementation**

- The Department of Education will develop a formula to assign voluntary spending reduction targets for each supervisory union for FY12 budgets. The board of each supervisory union and each school district must notify the commissioner by Dec. 15, 2010, whether their combined budgets will meet the recommended reductions in spending.

Act 153 (H.66) – **Voluntary Mergers; Miscellaneous Amendments**

Supervisory Union Duties

- Supervisory union board duties will be expanded to include: establishing an s. u.-wide curriculum; providing professional development for member districts; providing special education; providing financial and student data management services; procuring and distributing goods and operational services; managing construction projects; providing transportation; providing human resources management support; and making contract negotiations.
- Superintendent duties will be expanded to include: reporting all financial operations for the s. u. and member districts; dismissing staff and hiring non-

licensed staff; nominating candidates for licensed positions; and developing and implementing class size policies.

Incentives for Voluntary Mergers

- Provides financial incentives to school districts that choose to merge voluntarily according to certain conditions.

Graduation Ceremonies

- Students on IEPs or 504 plans may participate in graduation ceremonies even if they will remain enrolled to receive additional services.

Distance Learning

- Districts may offer education services by entering into contracts with certain accredited distance learning providers.

2009

Act 1 (S.13) – Child Sexual Abuse Prevention

- Expands required health education in schools, beginning in school year 2011-12, to include training on how to recognize and prevent sexual abuse and sexual violence. (Sec. 3)
- Amends existing requirement that school boards adopt policies on supervision of volunteers and work study students. (Sec. 7b)
- Requires school boards to insure that staff receive “orientation, information, or instruction on the prevention, identification, and reporting of child sexual abuse.” Boards also must provide opportunities for parents and guardians to receive this information. (Sec. 9)
- Requires superintendents and headmasters of independent schools to obtain child abuse and vulnerable adult abuse registry checks of any person offered employment and of any contractor or student teacher who may have unsupervised contact with children. (Sec. 5)

Act 44 (H. 427) – Miscellaneous Changes

Two-Vote (Sec. 6)

- Rewrites the required ballot language for districts subject to the Act 82 divided question (“two-vote”) law.

High School Completion (Sec. 40–45)

- Enrolled students may participate in the High School Completion Program, whereby districts formulate a Graduation Education Plan, for which the district can be reimbursed for contracted educational services.

- Educational Support Teams will determine which enrolled students require additional supports to graduate from high school. The ESTs are to develop individualized strategies for identified students for this purpose. The teams also must report annually to the Commissioner on how students' needs have been addressed.
- Schools must provide supplemental reading instruction to middle and high school students with low reading proficiency.

Tuitioning (Sec. 13)

- A student's parent may petition a school board to pay tuition for the student to attend an out-of-district public elementary school and may appeal the board's ruling.
- If a district does not operate an elementary school, a parent may enroll his or her child in an approved independent school, in addition to a public school, and have the board pay tuition.

Act 1 (Special Session) (H.441) – **Appropriations Bill**

- Freezes for two years (FY 2010 and 2011) the annual General Fund transfer to the Education Fund at \$240.8 million, instead of allowing it to increase annually according to statute.
- Shifts a number of financial obligations onto the Education Fund: the Community High School of Vermont (\$3 m.), the Early Education Initiative (\$1.1 m.), and the DOE's VISION computer account system (~\$250,000).

2008

Act 154 (H.711) – **Miscellaneous Changes**

AF&H Needs Assessment (Sec. 3) [data collection]

- Directs the completion of a needs assessment on agricultural, forestry, and horticultural education in secondary schools and technical centers throughout the state, including an analysis of the effectiveness of schools in providing this education currently.

Animal Dissection (Sec. 4)

- Requires school districts to adopt and implement policies governing animal dissection, including procedures for excusing students from participating, notifying parents in advance, and developing alternative education methods.

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Training (Sec. 8)

- Requires superintendents to determine the content, duration, and frequency of alcohol and drug abuse training for the districts in his or her supervisory union.

Public School Designation (Sec. 36) [data collection]

- Directs the Commissioner of Education to gather data on school districts that pay tuition to other districts for their students, including information on which school districts do so, the number of students, which schools they attend, and which schools they might reasonably attend.

Alternative Education (Sec. 37) [data collection]

- Directs the Commissioner to study and report on alternative education programs available to secondary students across the state.

Act 168 (H.635) – **Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect**

- Expands the list of professionals who are required to report suspected child abuse or neglect. In addition to school teachers and administrators, any individual regularly employed by or contracted by a school district will be required to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

Act 174 (S.357) – **Harassment in Schools** [data collection]

- A committee is directed to study harassment and bullying in schools, including current policies, laws, and training and to create a strategic plan to reduce harassment in schools.

Act 175 (H.748) – **Emergency Medication**

- Allows students with life-threatening allergies or with asthma to possess and self-administer emergency medication at school.
- Students' parents, in collaboration with the school nurse, will develop a plan of action for responding to life-threatening allergies or asthma. The plan will be maintained by the school as part of students' health records.

Act 192 (H.891) – **Appropriations Bill**

Teen Parent Education Programs

- Changes the amount, for the 2008-09 school year, that districts are required to pay to teen parent education programs for each resident student who attends. The cost per student is increased from 83% of the base education amount to 83% of the prior year's statewide average net cost per pupil. (This change is made permanent under Act 44 of 2009.)

School Breakfast

- State is now responsible for paying the student's share of reduced-price school breakfasts for those students who are eligible. The Commissioner of Education will reimburse school districts on a quarterly basis.

2007

Act 23 (S.173) – **Vietnam-Era Veterans**

- Requires schools, upon request, to award high school diplomas to honorably discharged Vietnam-era veterans.

Act 41 (S.51) – **Gender Identity**

- Requires school districts to revise their policies on harassment so that they mention specifically gender identity.

Act 48 (S.13) – **Bus Idling**

- Directs the State Board of Education to adopt rules that will limit school bus idling on school grounds, with certain exceptions.

Act 52 (H.405) – **Capital Construction**

- Enacts a moratorium on school construction aid unless approved by voters prior to March 7, 2007.

Act 62 (H.534) – **Prekindergarten Education**

- Directs the Commissioners of Education and of Children and Families to jointly develop rules for adoption by the State Board of Education concerning pre-k programs offered by or through public schools. (Sec. 3)
- The commissioners will report regarding the enrollment, ADM usage, cost, and other aspects of the pre-k programs and will include a detailed analysis. (Sec. 9)

Act 82 (H.526) – **Education Quality, Cost Control**

Budget Voting (Sec. 5–6)

- Requires a divided question (“two-vote”) for school budgets for districts with above-average spending per pupil in the previous year and proposed spending increases greater than the rate of inflation plus one percent. (Applies for FY10 through FY14.)

Weighting (Sec. 7–9)

- Reduces the secondary student weight from 1.25 to 1.13 and directs the Commissioner of Education to study the accuracy of grade level weights every two years.

Special Education (Sec. 10)

- Directs the Commissioner to identify high spending special education districts annually and conduct performance reviews of those districts. If the results are unsatisfactory, the district must work with the Commissioner to develop a

remediation plan. If identified districts do not make satisfactory progress after two years, 10 percent of their special education reimbursement may be withheld.

High Spending (Sec. 11) [data collection]

- Directs the Commissioner to examine school districts that exceed the excess spending threshold.

Financial Management (Sec. 18) [data collection]

- Directs the Commissioner to examine the financial management systems that school districts use and the range of training and expertise of school business officers.

Collective Bargaining (Sec. 29–41)

- Requires school boards within a supervisory union to bargain jointly with all employee bargaining units in the supervisory union.

2006

Act 114 (H.630) – **Suicide Prevention**

- Expands the scope of “comprehensive health education” to include instruction on depression and signs of suicide risk and includes how to respond and how to seek help through school and community resources.

Act 127 (H.538) – **Informing Parents, Students of Rights**

- Directs the Commissioner of Education to annually provide superintendents with a list of information that school districts, school boards, and school employees are required to make available to the electorate, community members, parents, and students.
- Requires school boards to annually inform parents of high school students of their school choice options.
- Requires school boards to enable parents of high school students to disallow the provision of student contact information to either military recruiters or institutions of higher learning, while allowing provision of this information to the other.

Act 130 (H.877) – **Technical Center Budgets**

- Amends the budget adoption mechanism for regional technical center school districts. Such districts will need to prepare and report on a budget to the electorate of the region. If passed, school districts that send students to such centers will be assessed their share according to the budget, and the assessment will be included in the district’s education spending computation.

Act 145 (H.546) – **Nutrition** [data collection]

- Directs the Commissioner to expand training opportunities for food service personnel and to recommend how to increase the use of local food in schools and ways to improve training for food service providers.
- Directs the Commissioner to report on the number of school districts that have and have not adopted a nutrition policy, and on the substance of those policies.

Act 147 (H.864) – **Capital Construction**

- Decreases state aid for renewable heating and cooling systems from 90 % to 75 %.
- The warning and ballot connected with school construction funding will include a warning that the state may not pay immediately and that the district is responsible for costs incurred in anticipation of state aid.
- Districts applying for school construction funding must sign and return a statement acknowledging that state funds might not be available immediately.
- A committee is formed to develop a proposal to incorporate high performance school design and construction standards into Vermont school construction projects.

Act 158 (H.611) – **Allergies and Illnesses**

- Directs the Commissioners of Education and of Health to annually inform superintendents and principals “of appropriate practices regarding students with life-threatening allergies and chronic illnesses; and prepare and distribute policies, training materials, and school guidelines for managing students with life-threatening allergies and chronic illnesses, including family responsibilities, school responsibilities and student responsibilities.”
- School boards must assign an employee to annually inform parents of students with allergies and chronic illnesses of their rights. The same employee will be responsible for informing school staff of their responsibilities and providing staff training necessary to the fulfillment of their responsibilities.

Act 176 (S.222) – **High School Completion**

- Individuals ages 16 to 21 and not enrolled in school may be assigned a school district by the Commissioner of Education and develop, in conjunction with the district and an approved provider, a graduation education plan.
- The plan will define the scope of the academic course work required for graduation, and identify the providers of the services required to carry out the plan. The high school will award a diploma upon successful completion and the school district will be reimbursed by the Commissioner for both the services provided and services contracted to outside providers. (\$1 million is appropriated from the Education Fund for these reimbursements.)

Act 182 (H. 867) – **Technical Corrections**

- Tuition paid to technical centers must be listed as a separate item on proposed budgets. (Sec. 3)

- District and supervisory union boards' comprehensive liability insurance cannot be less than \$500,000 per person or \$2 million per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage. (Sec. 5)
- Regional technical center school districts must have their financial statements audited annually, as opposed to once every three years. (Sec. 6)
- Districts will pay 75–85 % of the base education amount (pro-rated) to a teen parent education program for each individual. (Sec. 15)
- School districts' annual reports must include the prior year's Medicaid reimbursement revenues and use of the Medicaid funds. (Sec. 19)
- The Commissioner will review excess spending and district spending adjustment provisions on various types of school districts. He or she also will work with others to study school quality and cost reduction; to provide recommendations for school district auditing requirements; to report on whether the SAT or ACT should be used to assess secondary student performance; and to gather information for discussion in 2007 about increasing the compulsory attendance age to 18. (Sec. 20) [data collection]
- Schools must annually submit the names of effective trainings in hazing, harassment, and bullying prevention for staff and students to the Commissioner.

Act 186 (S.314) – **Pre-K Study** [data collection]

- Creates a study committee to gather information on existing prekindergarten education services, including their numbers, costs, and types of services and education provided.

Act 214 (H.677) – **Standards Board; Licensing**

- Creates a new Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators to oversee the training, licensing, and professional standards of teachers and administrators; establish hearing panels to determine compliance.
- The Commissioner must notify superintendents of allegations of misconduct. Failure of a superintendent to maintain confidentiality surround an investigation is a potential cause for a licensing action.

2005

Act 25 (H.299) – **Agency Fees**

- Makes agency fees for non-union members a mandatory subject of bargaining.

Act 29 (S.81) – **School Buses**

- Vehicles with a capacity of fewer than 11, used for student transportation, and owned, leased, hired, or paid for by a school are considered Type II school buses for licensure (must display sign) and must have at least two alternating red lights.
- The drivers of motor coaches and of multifunction school activity buses used on a single- or multi-trip contract basis must have a criminal record check if the driver may have unsupervised contact with students.

Act 54 (S.159) – **Updating Education Law** [data collection]

- Directs the commissioner of Education to study the amounts of tuition overcharges by schools and how the amounts related to the calculated net cost per pupil.

2004

Act 75 (H.234) – **Veterans**

- Upon request, schools will award high school diplomas to honorably-discharged Korean War veterans.

Act 91 (H.113) – **Harassment**

- Directs schools districts to revise harassment policy to reflect changes to the definition of harassment.
- Districts must update administrative procedures, especially to ensure timely investigations
- Districts must review and update school publications so as to be consistent with this act.
- Districts must provide training for students, parents, and staff as needed.

Act 114 (S.308) – **NCLB Compliance**

- Supervisory unions and supervisory districts will be the LEA for purposes of distributing funds under the No Child Left Behind Act.
- School districts will be the LEA for purposes of determining student performance and consequences of failure to meet standards.

Act 117 (H.629) – **Bullying Prevention**

- Districts must revise their discipline plans to include bullying and other misconduct that, though serious, does not reach the level of harassment.
- Districts must review and update school publications so as to be consistent with this act.
- The Commissioner must develop a comprehensive model plan to address bullying and distribute it to districts; the plan will include notification and data collection requirements for schools.

Act 121 (H.767) – **Capital Construction**

- Eligibility for school construction aid for consolidation is tightened. Aid is available only for projects that consolidate buildings within a district or for projects that are integral to the formation of a union school district. (Sec. 54)

Act 122 (H.768) – **Appropriations Bill**

- Creates a youth in agriculture, natural resources, and food production consortium to oversee the development of programs to connect youths' experiences with in-school education. (Sec. 164a)

Act 161 (H.272) – **Nutrition**

- The Commissioner of Education establishes an advisory council on wellness to assist the Department in planning, coordinating, and encouraging wellness programs in schools.
- The Commissioner will collaborate with others to:
 - Supervise the preparation of curricula, promote teacher preparation, and assist in the development of programs
 - Prepare and update a list of wellness programs
 - Establish and maintain a website with data from youth risk surveys
 - Research and publicize funding opportunities for schools and communities that wish to develop wellness programs
 - Create a process for schools to provide data to the Department of Health
- The Department of Education will assist schools and supervisory unions with teacher instruction.
- The Commissioner, with others, will write a model school fitness and nutrition policy.
- The Commissioner will develop and implement a wellness grant program.

2003

Act 12 (H.147) – **Public Bidding**

- Districts must seek at least three bids or publicly advertise if they are looking for an outside contractor to perform work in excess of \$15,000. (Sec. 1)

Act 16 (H.83) – **Emergency Drills**

- Monthly fire drills must also include emergency preparedness.

Act 22 (H.54) – **School Meals**

- Schools must participate in federal breakfast and lunch programs unless the electorate votes to exempt the district, a decision that must be revisited each year.
- Warnings of related meetings and copies of agenda and minutes must be sent to the Commissioner of Education.

Act 36 (H.477) – **Technical Corrections**

- If a district eliminates the position of auditor, a certified public accountant must audit the district's financial accounts and average daily membership count annually.

Act 64 (S.185) – **No Child Left Behind**

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- Directs the Commissioner to determine how well schools and students are meeting state standards every two years and to impose consequences if they are failing to meet those standards.
- Creates a NCLB Oversight Committee. (Sec. 4)

Act 68 (H.480) – **Education Funding**

- Excess spending penalty applies to schools with a per pupil cost that is 25% higher than the prior year's average. (Sec. 3)
- An agency proposing a rule must evaluate the cost implications to education and public schools. (Sec. 44)
- The Commissioner will ask education entities to provide a list of unnecessarily burdensome or redundant requirements placed on schools. (Sec 43)
- Creates the Council on Education Governance, which includes school board, superintendent, principal, and teacher representatives. (Sec. 71)

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