Act No. 127 (S.287). Education; funding; weighting factors; student equity

An act relating to improving student equity by adjusting the school funding formula and providing education quality and funding oversight

This act:

- updates pupil weights and limits the degree to which homestead property tax rates can increase over fiscal years 2025–2029;
- suspends the excess spending penalty during fiscal years 2024–2029 and the hold harmless provision and ballot language requirements during fiscal years 2025–2029;
- requires the Agency of Education to implement the universal income declaration form for the 2023–24 school year;
- sets out required English learner services to be offered by school districts and provides categorical aid for English learner services to districts with 25 or fewer English learners;
- creates new positions at the Agency of Education;
- amends the education quality standards;
- requires an evaluation of the act in achieving the act’s goals;
- requires the Joint Fiscal Office to contract for services to review CTE funding and governance structures; and
- requires the Department of Taxes to make recommendations regarding the implementation of an income-based education tax system to replace the homestead property tax system.

Multiple effective dates, beginning on July 1, 2022