



Friday, April 8, 2022

The Charter School *Advocate*

THIS WEEK @ THE LEGISLATURE

The **Omnibus Education Bills** of both chambers were released, heard, and voted on in Committees.

HOUSE EDUCATION FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Monday, April 4th / Tuesday April 5th – Held walkthrough of the House Education Omnibus bill on Monday and took public testimony on Tuesday. The bill proposes an additional \$1.115 billion on a large variety of education initiatives in FY23. **Passed and was sent to House Tax Committee.**

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Monday, April 4th / Wednesday April 6th – Held walkthrough of the Senate Education Omnibus bill and took public testimony. The bill proposes \$30.7 million on literacy initiatives in FY23. The bill was amended to appropriate funds and require schools to provide students with access to free menstrual products in restrooms. **Passed and was sent to Senate Finance Committee.**

NEXT STEPS IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS:

Please note that there is over a \$1.1 billion dollar difference between the House and Senate Education Committees Omnibus Education bills. Once the appropriate Tax and Finance Committees deal with the bills, they will be sent to the floor of the respective chamber which will pass them basically on a party line vote. After that, a Conference Committee composed of members from each chamber will try to negotiate a final bill.

OTHER EDUCATION BILLS INTRODUCED THIS WEEK

- **SF 4484:** Would create a grant program supporting “community-based initiatives / collaborative efforts” to address closing educational achievement gaps. This bill would appropriate \$20 million from FY 23-27.
- **SF 4478 / HF 4727:** Would authorize a onetime adjustment to a school district’s American Indian educational aid to help schools who did not spend their full allocated amount between FY 20-22.
- **SF 4477 / HF 4782 –** Would provide “Pre-K through grade 12 funding provided; general education, education excellence, teachers, special education, and nutrition provisions modified; report required; and money appropriated.” This bill is a slimmed down version of the House Education Omnibus Bill.
- **SF 4403 / HF 4744:** Would create an education savings account program authorizing students at “underperforming” schools to apply account funds and transfer to an eligible “nonpublic school.”

NOTE: Please keep in mind that when a bill is introduced, it **does not mean** it will be heard or will be enacted into law.

NEXT WEEK @ THE CAPITOL

The Legislature is on a recess for Passover and Easter through – Monday, April 18th.

"Unleashing education from convention" - is more than the MACS motto, it is a reminder of our purpose, our goals and it serves as a clarion **Call To Action.**

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