

GOVERNMENTAL ACTION NEWS

2010
WINTER



BILLS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

The following information is current as of March 3, 2010. Several bills have been introduced that would allow school districts to discontinue meeting the requirements of mandates in the Illinois School Code if those mandates are not funded by the State. Judy Tiggelaar, IAHPERD Governmental Affairs Chairperson, sees these bills as “very dangerous” for any mandated curricular area, especially Health Education and Physical Education, and, in some bills, Driver’s Education. To follow the progress of these bills, go to www.ilga.gov and type in the bill number with the appropriate HB or SB, depending on the bill’s house of origin (see bill designations below). You can read the full text of the bill and a summary on this web site.

PLEASE NOTE: many bills have amendments added to them before they actually go to the floor for a vote, so it would be worthwhile reading any listed amendments as well, to get an accurate picture of the bill contents.

DEADLINES: any bill still left in a committee after the deadline, can be considered “dead” for this spring session. The deadline to get House bills out of committees is March 12 and the deadline to get Senate bills out of committee is March 4. Once they pass out of committee, they can be called on the floor for a vote. If they are left in committee, they cannot be called for a floor vote.

IAHPERD is on record as opposing the following bills:

HB 4711—Chief sponsors: Representatives Eddy, Mitchell, Bassi, Pritchard, Osmond
No school district is obligated to comply with any mandate unless a separate appropriation has been enacted into law providing funding...

HB 5889—Chief sponsors: Representatives Pihos, Bassi, Kosel, Eddy
School districts are not required to implement instructional mandates in the public schools, but provides that schools shall be required to teach students to the standards...

HJR 74—Chief sponsors: Representatives Eddy, Mitchell, Bassi, Pritchard, Black
No district is obligated to comply with any mandate unless a separate appropriation has been enacted providing funding....except course work required for high school graduation.

SB 2980—Chief sponsors: Senators Maloney, Demuzio, Leuchtefeld, McCarter
A school board may waive, by resolution, any mandate for which the district does not receive a separate State appropriation or reimbursement by the State to extend the school day or year (except a curricular mandate directly related to an Illinois Learning Standard).

SB 3000—Chief sponsors: Senators Garrett, Maloney, Demuzio, Noland
Creates the Instructional Mandates Task Force to examine all instructional mandates. Provides a moratorium on any new instructional mandates for the next 4 years.

SB 3556—Chief sponsor: Senator Lauzen
No district is obligated to comply with any mandate unless a separate appropriation has been enacted providing funding for the school year during which such mandate is required except course work required for high school graduation.

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IAHPERD supports the following bills:

HB 4948—Chief sponsors: Representative Pritchard

The Dept. of Transportation shall establish a Safe Routes to School Non-Infrastructure Program to fund strategies to help children enjoy healthy and safe commutes to and from school. Creates the Childhood Obesity Fund to make grants to school districts.

HB 5472—Chief sponsor: Representative Flowers

Requires a school board to publish the school lunch menu and the nutrition content, including calories of each meal item.

SB 3706—Chief sponsor: Senator Holmes

The ISBE shall develop and maintain a nutrition and physical activity best practices database, which shall be readily available to school districts Statewide.

Judy Tiggelaar advises IAHPERD members to keep tabs on all the legislation noted above and wants to insure them that IAHPERD is working hard to support or oppose these bills. Look for further updates on www.iahperd.org

GENERAL ASSEMBLY NAMES NEW EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Go to www.iahperd.org to find a link to contact information for legislators who have been appointed to the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee and to the Senate Education Committee.

Check our website for instant email notices and updated information

www.iahperd.org