

One Hundred Fourth Legislature - First Session - 2015

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB522

Chairperson: Senator Kate Sullivan

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: February 02, 2015

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 522 would amend the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act (TEEOSA) and the provisions for distributing apportionment funds from the temporary school fund beginning with the 2016-17 school fiscal year. These changes would provide direct support to school districts for students, reduce property taxes, and improve communications with the public regarding how their state tax dollars are being used to support education.

The current process for distributing allocated income tax funds would be replaced by distributing 10% of state resident income taxes to local systems proportionately based on formula students. In addition, the distribution of apportionment funds from the temporary school fund would be moved to the Act and would also be distributed proportionately based on formula students. Net option funding would be adjusted to reflect that districts would already be receiving aid for those students from the other two sources.

Direct aid would be provided through the Act equal to 50% of the existing allowances for summer school, focus schools and programs, poverty, limited English proficiency, transportation, distance education and telecommunications, and elementary sites.

The local effort rate would be reduced by \$0.05. The minimum levy adjustment would be eliminated and the levy criteria in the averaging adjustment calculation would be removed. Lastly, the aid for learning community member districts would be calculated and distributed separately for each district.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Kate Sullivan