

One-Minute Summary: Significant Education Provisions in Special Session

MREA: Special Session Report as of 7:00 am on May 26, 2017

TOTALS FOR 18-19 BIENNIUM

- Education (HF2): \$483 million
- Taxes (HF1): \$650 million

FUNDING:

- Adds 2% and 2% to the education formula: \$274 million in biennium
 - \$121 in FY '18 and \$124 in FY '19
 - \$6,188 in FY '18, \$6,312 in FY '19
- Continues increases in Long Term Facility Maintenance Funding (LTFM): \$131.3 million in biennium

TAXES:

- Creates Ag2School 40% Ag credit for school facility debt taxes: \$35.5 million in FY '19
- NO new tax credit for donations to 501c3s for scholarships (vouchers) to private schools
- NO expansion of existing tax credit to tuition
- NO changes to Debt Service Equalization

TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION:

- Establishes new Professional Educator Licensure Board
- Establishes a new tiered teacher licensure system
- Requires each district to negotiate a ULA plan and strikes statutory language for placing teachers on ULA
- Increases loan forgiveness \$500,000 one time
- Tax credits for college loan payments over 10% of adjusted gross income and other calculations max \$500 (\$27 million annually)
- NO changes to TRA in these bills

EARLY LEARNING:

- Voluntary Pre-K (VPK) remains for districts currently in the program
- Increases Pathway I scholarships \$10 million (annually)
- Freezes Pathway II scholarships
- Postpones by 4 years (until 2020) requirement for 3- or 4-star rating to receive Pathway I scholarships
- Establishes a new School Readiness Plus (SR+) program with \$50 million in '18-19 biennium only for 4-year olds
 - Districts can apply whether or not they have VPK
 - Selection will be on VPK selection criteria
 - Sliding fees may be charged
 - Funding must supplement, not supplant, current local, state or federal pre-school funding at site with SR+

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT:

- Expands statewide support for concurrent enrollment teacher credentialing with \$375,000 annually for 4 years
- Credit in tax bill for teachers pursuing masters in core content areas (\$30,000)

BROADBAND: Adds an additional \$20 million in broadband expansion grants for FY '18 only

ELECTIONS:

- NO changes in ballot language
- Restricts special elections to five dates: Feb., April, May, Aug., Nov.
- Districts can consolidate polling places if done by 12/31 for following year, effective 1/1/18