



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments*

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H.B. 438

131st General Assembly
(S. Education)

The amendments adopted by the Senate committee make the following changes to the bill:

School counselor evaluations

Permits a school district or school, beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, to choose not to evaluate school counselors who were on leave for a majority of the school year or have submitted a notice of retirement.

Anatomical gift instruction

Requires each school district to include instruction in the process of making an anatomical gift in the district's health curriculum.

Requires the Second Chance Trust Fund Advisory Committee to submit recommendations for instruction in the process of making an anatomical gift to the Department of Education by July 1, 2017.

Requires the Department, upon receiving the recommendations, to publish them on its website.

Disposal of property by school districts

Modifies the timelines for the sale or lease of real property or unused facilities by a school district by requiring only one 60-day offer period to all start-up community schools and college-preparatory boarding schools within the district but retaining the priority status afforded to high-performing community schools.

Requires the Department of Education to post in a prominent location on its website a list of schools that qualify as high-performing community schools.

* This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate Floor.

Classroom facilities assistance for certain consolidating school districts

Requires the School Facilities Commission, if it determines that a city, local, or exempted village school district is an "eligible school district," to give that district first priority for funding for a project under the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program as such funds become available, regardless of the district's percentile ranking for that program.

Specifies that, if an "eligible school district" results from a transfer, merger, consolidation, or creation of a new local district that takes place prior to the bill's effective date, the district's portion of the total project cost must be the required percentage of the basic project cost based on the percentile ranking of the lowest wealth district that was transferred, merged, consolidated, or existed prior to the creation of the new district.

Permits the Commission to reduce an eligible school district's portion of the total project cost of the project in certain prescribed circumstances.

Repeals a provision of existing law that requires the Commission to adopt rules providing guidelines for prioritizing facility funding for districts that voluntarily develop certain joint use agreements and permits the Commission to advance the funding priority for projects of districts that are parties to such agreements.