



Legislative Update: MSBO

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Federal Administration

Federal Government Budget

- The US House and Senate passed a continuing resolution (CR) that extends government funding at current levels for four appropriations bills through January 18 and for the other eight through February 2.
- Education funding is in the batch that expires on February 2nd.

Federal Administration

- This month, the CDC released an action guide for the purpose of promoting mental health and well-being in schools. The guide provides strategies and information on the role of all school staff in promoting student well-being. The report can be found [here](#).
- Early Childhood:
 - [Proposed updated Head Start rules](#) - biggest change is to the staff compensation and benefits in an effort to improve recruitment and retention. Comments due by January 19, 2024.
 - US Departments of Education & Health and Human Services released an updated [policy paper](#) on inclusion of children with disabilities in early childhood programs.

Federal Legislation

New Federal School Safety Legislation

New bipartisan school safety legislation called the Preparing Leaders to Assess Needs (PLAN) for School Safety Act ([H.R. 6613](#)).

- This bill would provide resources to states to establish school safety development centers that will help schools conduct assessments of their safety, identify evidence-based solutions to improve security, and access state and federal grant funding.
- The new centers would be under the state education agencies in states that apply.
- AASA helped to craft this legislation and endorses it.

SUGGESTION - why not have these under regional education service centers?

State Administration

Statutory Amendment to Additional Forgiven Time and Professional Development

- As you may recall, the State Superintendent was given the ability to waive an additional three days of pupil instruction under statute. The current State Superintendent implemented a restriction on how he would award those by prohibiting those additional 3 days to districts that had counted professional development (PD) as pupil instruction (which is allowed in a different section of law).
- The Legislature amended the statute during the budget process to state that the State Superintendent could not penalize districts for use of PD days for pupil instruction in this way. MDE has released a [memo](#) stating they will implement this change and adjust retroactively as appropriate.

Control of the Michigan House

- The House is in a 54-54 tie. Two seats sit empty.
- The governor called for a special primary election to be held on January 30, 2024, and the general election to be held on April 16, 2024.
- Democrats maintain the Speakership and majorities in the committees, and the Senate can continue on as before; but...
- It is unlikely much, if anything, will pass the House until those two seats are filled.

Upcoming in January/February

- The Michigan House and Senate reconvene on Wednesday, January 10th.
- The Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference (CREC) would typically fall around Friday January 12th.
- Governor's State of the State - 2nd half of January.
- Governor's Proposed Executive Budget - early February.
 - Questions:
 - How will the budget handle items previously funded with “one-time” funding? This includes universal meals.
 - How will the House membership tie and two special elections impact timing of budget finalization?
- With the early end (Sine Die) of the legislature in 2023, the effective date for acts without immediate effect will be February 13th, 2024.

New Laws and “Almost Laws”

Presented to the Governor just last week:

- Supplemental Budgets - [SB 174](#) - School Aid; and [HB 4292](#) - General Fund: Pontiac City School District debt forgiveness (\$18.36 million). Ordered Enrolled.
- Mandates the dental oral assessment program ([SB 280](#)) beginning in school year 2024-2025. Ordered Enrolled. OS Opposed.

More Recent Public Acts:

- Creates retiree employment allowance with cap at \$15,100 during initial 6 months and superintendents carved out of allowance. ([HB 4752](#)). Signed – Public Act 147 of 2023.
- School/child care safe water management plans. [HBs 4341](#) and [4342](#) were signed into law (Public Acts 154 and 155, respectively) and [SB 88](#) was signed into law.
- [SB 169](#) would require contact information of new employees to be given to the appropriate collective bargaining representative. PA 236 of 2023.
- Remove prohibition of allowance of deduction from a public employee's wages for certain political purposes. [HB 4230](#) & [HB 4234](#). PAs 243 and 244, respectively, of 2023.
- Educator/Administrator evaluations ([SB 395](#) H-2 and [SB 396](#)). New substitute removed the questionable misconduct definition change, and still adds an arbitration piece but instead of MERC it will use AAA. [LSB Summary as passed](#). PAs 224 and 225, respectively, of 2023. OS Opposed.
- MPSERS as default selection for new employees ([HB 5021](#)). PA 250 of 2023. OS Supported.
- Mandate renewable alternate sources by 2035 ([SB 271](#)). PA 235 of 2023.

Legislation Still Hanging Around

These are bills that we are watching, are part of our priorities, or have moved recently.

Currently in the HOUSE:

- Labor Day Start bill ([HB 4671](#)). House Floor. OS Supports.
- Flavored Vape Product Sales Ban - Products targeted to minors ([HB 5198](#)). House Regulatory Reform Committee. OS Opposes.
- Allow students to be treated with medical marijuana and CBD products during school ([HBs 5063-64](#)). House Regulatory Reform Committee. Note: Federal and State laws conflict. OS Opposed.
- Allow school districts to use design-build construction ([HB 4603](#)). House Regulatory Reform Committee. OS Supports.
- Require height-adjustable, adult-sized changing tables in public restrooms ([HB 4649](#)). House Regulatory Reform Committee. OS Opposes.
- Three year deadline extension for the Superintendent of Public Instruction to issue interim teaching certificates (ITC) for special education ([SB 518](#)). Passed Senate (38-0). House Education Committee. OS Supports.
- Prohibit youth employment waivers for working between midnight and 5 am, and for occupation that is hazardous or injurious. ([HB 4932](#)). House Floor. OS Supports.
- FAFSA form requirement for high school diploma ([SB 463](#)). Passed Senate (20-18). House Education Committee. OS Opposes.

Currently in the SENATE:

- Codify Universal School Meals ([SB 500](#)). Senate Floor. OS Supports.
- Dyslexia screening and teacher preparation bills ([SB 567 & 568](#), and [HB 5098](#)). Senate Education and House Education Committees, respectively. OS Opposes.
- Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act ([HB 4965](#)). Passed House (79-30). Senate Oversight. OS Opposes.
- Prohibit employers and labor organizations from requesting or maintaining a record of certain information about an applicant's criminal history. ([HB 4960](#)) - Passed House (57-53). Senate Civil Rights, Judiciary, and Public Safety Committee.
- Prohibit high school student athletes from being prevented from receiving compensation for the use of their name, image, or likeness rights. ([HB 4816](#)) Passed the House with [H-5](#) (66-43). Senate Oversight Committee. No position.
- Increase allowable time in work-based learning experience toward pupil instruction and codify in the School Aid Act ([SB 23](#)). Senate Floor. OS Supports.

Questions?

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