
DIGEST

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HB 143 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Bacala

Abstract: Authorizes the state superintendent of education to assign a chief operating officer to research and make recommendations relative to the financial practices of local school systems that fail to comply with the minimum instructional expenditure requirement in the MFP formula.

Present constitution provides for public elementary and secondary education funding through the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) formula, which is adopted by the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and submitted to the legislature for approval. (The MFP formula has historically required public school systems to ensure that at least 70% of the system's general fund expenditures are in the areas of instruction and school administration at the school building level.)

Proposed law provides the following and requires BESE to adopt rules for proposed law implementation:

- (1) Authorizes the state superintendent of education to assign a chief operating officer (COO) to make recommendations relative to the financial practices of local school systems that fail for two consecutive years to comply with this expenditure requirement.
- (2) Requires the superintendent to include the COO's findings in any report he makes to BESE relative to system compliance with this requirement.
- (3) Requires local school boards to develop compliance plans based on the COO's recommendations and submit them to the state superintendent, and provides that plan implementation is contingent on his approval.
- (4) Provides that the COO shall be a contract employee who serves on a temporary basis as determined by the superintendent, shall not be a permanent employee of the department, and shall not receive a state salary or associated benefits.

(Adds R.S. 17:22.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add that COO shall be a contract employee who serves on a temporary basis as

determined by the superintendent, shall not be a permanent employee of the department, and shall not receive a state salary or associated benefits.