

#### WORK SESSION DOCUMENT

Legislative Commission's Committee to Study the Governance and Oversight of the System of K-12 Public Education (Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 2, File No. 89, *Statutes of Nevada 2009*)

May 13, 2010

The following "Work Session Document" has been prepared by the Chair and staff of the Legislative Commission's Committee to Study the Governance and Oversight of the System of K-12 Public Education (Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 2, File No. 89, *Statutes of Nevada*, 2009). Pursuant to *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 218D.160 and 218E.205, the Committee is limited to five legislative measures and must submit its bill draft requests (BDRs) by July 1, 2010, unless the Legislative Commission authorizes submission of a request after that date.

The "Work Session Document" contains a summary of proposals for BDRs or other actions that have been presented during public hearings, through communication with individual Committee members, or through correspondence or communications submitted to the Committee to Study the Governance and Oversight of the System of K-12 Public Education. It is designed to assist the Committee members in making decisions during the work session.

The proposals contained within this document are arranged under broad topics to allow members to review related issues. The Committee may accept, reject, modify, or take no action on any of the proposals. Actions available to the Committee members include: legislation to amend the NRS; transitory sections that do not amend the statutes; resolutions; statements in the Committee's final report; and letters of recommendation or support. The approved recommendations for legislation resulting from these deliberations will be prepared as bill drafts and submitted to the 2011 Session of the Nevada Legislature.

Committee members should be advised that Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) staff may, at the direction of the Chair, coordinate with interested parties to obtain additional information for drafting purposes or for information to be included in the final report.

Committee members will use a consent calendar to quickly approve those recommendations, as determined by the Chair, that need no further consideration or clarification beyond what is set forth in the recommendation summary. Any Committee member may request that items on the consent calendar be removed for further discussion and consideration.

### PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION (NRS 385.021)

- 1. A. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 385.021) to support the State Board of Education as follows:
  - Elected voting members, one per each congressional district. Members shall be elected at the 2012 General Election and take office on January 1, 2013.
  - Three appointed voting members, as follows:
    - ✓ One appointed by the Governor;
    - ✓ One appointed by the Senate Majority Leader; and
    - ✓ One appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly.
  - Three nonvoting members, as follows:
    - ✓ One student representative appointed by the Nevada Youth Legislature (NRS 385.515);
    - ✓ One member of a local board of trustees appointed by the Nevada Association of School Boards; and
    - ✓ One local school district superintendent appointed by the Nevada Association of School Administrators.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions and correspondence received from the Nevada Association of School Boards on April 26, 2010.)

#### AND

- B. Each member appointed by the Governor and legislative leadership must:
  - Be a resident of Nevada; and
  - Have experience in pre-K, elementary, secondary, or postsecondary education.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

C. The appointments made by the Governor and legislative leadership shall be made, to the extent practicable, from a list of nominations provided by education associations and other organizations of Nevada.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

D. Beginning January 1, 2013, provide for staggered four-year terms. (Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

2. A. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 385.3785) to transfer the duty of the Commission on Educational Excellence to establish a statewide program of educational excellence to the State Board of Education on July 1, 2011.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

B. Provide for a transitory section to require the State Board of Education to review the current vision and mission statements for the State Board of Education and revise, as needed, to establish a statewide program of educational excellence and reflect the need for Nevada's students to have the ability to succeed in a global economy. In contemplating revisions, the State Board of Education shall review vision and mission statements from other states. Submit the revised vision and mission statements to the Governor, the Director of the LCB for distribution to the Legislative Commission, the Committee, and the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation (Bureau) on or before July 1, 2013. The revised vision and mission statements shall be placed on the website of the DOE.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

Current vision statement for the State Board of Education: Quality Education for All.

Current mission statement for the State Board of Education: The Nevada State Board of Education/Nevada State Board for Occupational Education is dedicated to fostering excellent educational opportunities provided to all learners by sustaining a coherent, aligned system of instruction and support in partnership with all educational communities.

- 3. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 385.34691) to clarify that the State Board, in developing its State Plan for Improvement, will establish clearly defined goals and benchmarks for improving the academic achievement of students in the State of Nevada. (Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)
- 4. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 385.040) to require the State Board of Education to meet not fewer than nine times in any calendar year, beginning January 1, 2013. (Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)
- 5. A. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 385.040) to require the State Board of Education to hold an annual special meeting of the school district superintendents and presidents of the local boards of trustees in the State. The primary purpose of the meeting shall be to discuss the State's goals and benchmarks for improving the academic achievement of students in Nevada and the effect on local school districts.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions and correspondence received from the Nevada Association of School Boards on April 26, 2010.)

#### AND/OR

B. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 385.040) to require the State Board of Education to hold an annual special meeting of the chairs of all boards, commissions, and councils included in the education governance system. The primary purpose of the meeting shall be to discuss progress in meeting the State's goals and benchmarks for improving the academic achievement of students in Nevada.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND/OR

C. To improve communication between the State Board of Education and the Legislature, send a letter to the State Board of Education expressing a need for a legislative liaison. (NOTE: This item is included on the "Consent Calendar for Work Session.") (Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

# PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (NRS 385.150)

6. Amend the NRS to require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to be the educational leader of the State.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

7. A. Amend the NRS to provide that the Superintendent of Public Instruction require the observance of all laws relating to schools and education.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

B. Amend the NRS to require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to request a plan for corrective action for school districts, board of trustees of a school district, charter schools, or the governing body of a charter school that have not observed all laws relating to schools and education.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

8. A. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 385.230) to require the Superintendent of Public Instruction, in consultation with the State Board of Education, to compile and present in person an annual written report concerning the state of public education in Nevada. The report shall be made public and be presented, at a minimum, to the Governor, the Legislative Committee on Education each interim, and to the standing education committees during each legislative session.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

- B. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 385.230) to require the following additional information in the report:
  - A description of the vision and mission of the State Board of Education and the DOE:
  - A description of the goals and benchmarks for improving the academic achievement of students in Nevada as included in the State Improvement Plan (NRS 385.34691);
  - An analysis of the progress made in the previous year toward reaching the goals and benchmarks for improving the academic achievement of students in Nevada;
  - An analysis of the extent to which internationally benchmarked standards and assessments have been adopted and implemented in Nevada to prepare students for success in college and careers;

- An analysis of the extent to which school districts have recruited and retained effective teachers and principals;
- An analysis of the extent to which the data systems that link student achievement to teacher and principal performance has been developed and implemented;
- An analysis of the extent to the lowest performing schools in the State have been turned around; and
- A summary of innovative education programs implemented in the State that appears to be effective in increasing the academic achievement of certain populations of students.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

# PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (NRS 385.010)

9. Provide for a transitory section to require the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to review the current mission statement for the DOE and develop a vision statement and revise the mission statement, as needed, to support a statewide program of educational excellence and reflect the need for Nevada's students to have the ability to succeed in a global economy. In contemplating revisions, the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall review vision and mission statements from other states. Submit the vision and mission statements to the Governor, the Director of the LCB for distribution to the Legislative Commission, the Committee, and the Bureau on or before January 1, 2012. The revised vision and mission statements shall be placed on the website of the DOE.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

<u>Current Mission Statement for the Department:</u> The Nevada Department of Education provides leadership, resources, assistance and oversight, in partnership with school districts and others, to support student achievement and future success.

10. A. Amend the NRS to create the Division of Reform and Innovation in the DOE. The Division would be primarily responsible for developing, monitoring, implementing, and evaluating reform and innovative education programs for the pre-K through grade 12 public education system. The programs would include those funded through federal grants and those funded with State General Funds.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions and Committee discussion at the March 2010 meeting.)

#### AND

- B. Amend the NRS to authorize the Superintendent of Public Instruction to appoint a Deputy Superintendent of the Office of Reform and Innovation who:
  - Holds a master's degree in an education-related field; and
  - Has experience in the review and implementation of reform and innovative education-related programs in K-12.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions and Committee discussion at the March 2010 meeting.)

11. Provide for a transitory section to require performance indicators be established for each office established within the Department of Education during the 2011-2013 biennium and be reported to the 2013 Legislature.

(Based upon Committee discussion at the March 2010 meeting.)

12. Provide a letter to the Governor, legislative leadership, State Board, Legislative Committee on Education, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction stressing the Committee's concern with the ability of the DOE to enforce, monitor, and assist all school districts to the extent needed. Concerns not only involve the number of staff, but also the geographic placement of staff to adequately address needs. The Committee urges all parties to make a study of the structure of the DOE, as compared to other departments of education in the country, a priority during the 2011-2012 Interim and make recommendations to the 2013 Legislature.

(NOTE: This item is included on the "Consent Calendar for Work Session.") (Based upon Committee discussion at the March 2010 meeting.)

# PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS (NRS 389.510)

13. A. Repeal provisions in the NRS (primarily at NRS 389.500 to 389.570) governing the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools and amend the NRS, as applicable, to transfer the duties of the Council to the DOE. (Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

- B. Amend the NRS to direct the DOE to develop a process for qualified parties to revise the State academic standards. The parties convened to revise the State academic standards shall serve without compensation, unless legislative appropriations to support compensation have been approved or funding is otherwise available for this purpose. The revision process must include:
  - Superintendent of Public Instruction;
  - K-12 teachers:
  - Members of local boards of trustees;
  - Representatives from the Regional Training Programs for the Regional Professional Development Programs (RPDPs) of Teachers and Administrators;
  - Business and industry professionals actively engaged in career fields dependent on the academic standards content areas;
  - Parents or legal guardians of pupils who attend public schools and are not otherwise affiliated with the public school system of this State;
  - Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) faculty from the colleges of education in the State;
  - Professional educational organizations knowledgeable in the subject area; and
  - Other parties as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions and correspondence received from the Nevada Association of School Boards on April 26, 2010.)

#### AND

C. Amend the NRS to require the DOE to forward the recommended revisions of the academic standards to the State Board of Education for review and adoption, as appropriate.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

### PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE COMMISSION ON EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY (NRS 388.790)

14. A. Repeal provisions in the NRS (primarily at NRS 388.780 to 388.805) governing the Commission on Educational Technology and amend the NRS, as applicable, to transfer the duties of the Commission to the DOE.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

B. Amend the NRS to require the DOE to submit the plan for the use of educational technology in the public schools to the State Board of Education for review and approval, as appropriate.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

C. Amend the NRS to authorize the DOE to convene an advisory group. The members of the advisory group shall serve without compensation, unless legislative appropriations to support compensation have been approved or funding is otherwise available for this purpose. The primary duties of the advisory group would be to assist in the: (1) review and revision of the plan for the use of educational technology in the public schools; and (2) review of the applications for funds from the Trust Fund for Educational Technology and make recommendations for the allocation of funds to school districts.

Members of the advisory group shall possess knowledge and experience in the application of educational technology. In addition, the following, at a minimum, shall be represented by membership on the advisory group:

- School district administrators;
- Public school principals;
- Elementary school teachers;
- Secondary school teachers;
- Members of local boards of trustees;
- Public libraries:
- The NSHE:
- Business and industry professionals;
- Private sector;
- Parents or legal guardians; and
- Other parties as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions and correspondence received from the Nevada Association of School Boards on April 26, 2010.)

#### **AND**

D. Amend the NRS to require the State Board of Education to review the recommendations of the DOE, and the advisory group (if convened), concerning the allocation of funds from the Trust Fund for Educational Technology and approve the allocations, as appropriate. The DOE would be responsible for the actual disbursements based upon the allocations approved by the State Board.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND/OR

E. Amend the NRS to require the allocation of funds from the Trust Fund for Educational Technology be based upon the priorities included in the plan for the use of educational technology in public schools.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND/OR

F. Amend the NRS to require the allocation of funds from the Trust Fund for Educational Technology to each school district be based upon the needs of each school district; not on a per-pupil basis or formula approach.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND/OR

G. Amend the NRS to require an annual report that describes the allocation of money to school districts and an analysis of the progress of school districts in carrying out the plan for the use of educational technology in public schools. The report shall be posted on the Department's website and be distributed to all levels of government, including the State Board of Education; Superintendent of Public Instruction; Governor; Committee; Bureau; Interim Finance Committee; and Board of Trustees of each school district. (Based upon testimony at the January 2010 meeting.)

#### AND/OR

H. Include a statement in the final report in support of encouraging all entities involved in the development of the plan for the use of educational technology in public schools and the allocation of funds from the Trust Fund for Educational Technology to stay current on the progress of educational technology from a national perspective.

(NOTE: This item is included on the "Consent Calendar for Work Session.") (Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

# PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE COMMISSION ON EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE (NRS 385.3784)

15. A. Repeal provisions in the NRS (primarily at NRS 385.3781 to 385.379) governing the Commission on Educational Excellence and amend the NRS, as applicable, to transfer the duties of the Commission, except for those relating to establishing a program of educational excellence, to the DOE. (NOTE: See recommendation No. 2. A. under "Proposals Relating to the State Board of Education" for information concerning the establishment of a program of educational excellence in Nevada.)

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

B. Amend the NRS to authorize the DOE to convene an advisory group of members who possess knowledge and experience in the school improvement efforts. The members of the advisory group shall serve without compensation, unless legislative appropriations to support compensation have been approved or funding is otherwise available from this purpose. The primary duty of the advisory group would be to assist in the review of the applications for funds from the Account for Programs for Innovation and the Prevention of Remediation and make recommendations for the allocation of funds to schools.

Members of the advisory group shall represent the ethnic and geographic diversity of the State. In addition, the following, at a minimum, shall be represented by membership on the advisory group:

- School district administrators;
- Public school principals;
- Elementary school teachers;
- Secondary school teachers;
- Members of local boards of trustees;
- The NSHE:
- Parents or legal guardians; and
- Other parties as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions and correspondence received from the Nevada Association of School Boards on April 26, 2010.)

#### AND

C. Amend the NRS to require the State Board of Education to review the recommendations of the DOE, and the advisory group (if convened), concerning the allocation of funds from the Account and approve the allocations, as appropriate.

The DOE would be responsible for the actual disbursements based upon the allocations approved by the State Board.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND/OR

D. Amend the NRS to require the allocation of funds from the Account for Programs for Innovation and the Prevention of Remediation to be based upon the needs of each school; not on a per-pupil basis or formula approach. This would be in addition to the priorities for the allocation of funds from the Account already specified in NRS 385.3785 concerning adequate yearly progress and federal Title I eligibility. (*Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.*)

#### AND/OR

E. Amend the NRS to require the annual report that describes the distribution of money to the public schools and consortiums of public schools and the programs for which money was allocated from the Account to be posted on the DOE's website in addition to the submission of the report to the State Board of Education; Superintendent of Public Instruction; Governor; Committee; Bureau; Interim Finance Committee, and board of trustees of each school district.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND/OR

F. Include a statement in the final report in support of encouraging all entities involved in the allocation of funds from the Account for Programs for Innovation and the Prevention of Remediation to stay current on the progress of school improvement from a national perspective.

(NOTE: This item is included on the "Consent Calendar for Work Session.") (Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

### PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE

### REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS

(NRS 391.500 to NRS 391.556)

16. A. Repeal provisions in the NRS (primarily at NRS 391.516 to 391.520) governing the Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs and amend the NRS, as applicable, to transfer the duties of the Council to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

- B. Amend the NRS to require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to carry out the duties to coordinate not less than four meetings involving:
  - Each coordinator hired by the governing body of each RPDP;
  - One member of the governing body of each RPDP;
  - One representative of the Nevada State Education Association, appointed by the president of that Association;
  - One representative from the Colleges of Education of the NSHE; and
  - Other representatives, as determined by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

C. Amend the NRS to require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to forward the uniform standards for statewide professional development; uniform procedures for the evaluation of the training programs; and a report of the long-range planning for statewide professional development to the State Board for review and approval, as appropriate.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

- D. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 385.34691) to require the State Board to include a representative from each of the three RPDPs in preparing the State Plan for Improvement. (*Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions*.)
- 17. A. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 391.536) to revise the manner in which the budgets for the RPDPs are submitted to the Governor and Legislature to require the governing body of each RPDP to submit its proposed budget to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. (*Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.*)

#### AND

B. Amend the NRS to require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to submit the budgets to the State Board for review and possible inclusion in the budget of the DOE.

The State Board may reject any portion of the submitted budget, but must submit a written report to the applicable RPDP governing body detailing reasons for the rejection. If the State Board submits a rejection report to the governing body of an RPDP, the governing body may revise and resubmit the budget to the State Board. A copy of the rejection report shall be forwarded to the Governor, Director of the LCB for submission to the Legislature, the Committee, and the Bureau.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

# PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION (NRS 391.011)

- 18. Amend NRS 391.011 to revise the membership of the Commission, beginning January 1, 2012, as follows:
  - a. Five members appointed by the Governor:
    - Four teachers, as follows: One who teaches in a secondary school; one who teaches in a middle school or junior high school; one who teaches in an elementary school; and one who teaches special education. One of the four teachers must be employed by a private school licensed pursuant to Chapter 394 of NRS; and
    - One member who is a parent or legal guardian of a pupil who attends a public school and is not otherwise affiliated with the public school system of this State.
  - b. Two members appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate.
  - c. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly.

In making the appointments, legislative leadership shall ensure that the following positions are represented:

- One counselor or psychologist employed by a school district;
- Two administrators of schools, one of which is a principal of a school; and
- The Dean of the College of Education at one of the universities in the NSHE, or a representative of one of the Colleges of Education nominated by a dean for appointment.

Insofar as practicable, the members appointed to the Commission should reflect the ethnic and geographical diversity of the State.

d. The Superintendent of Public Instruction or his designee shall serve as an ex-officio nonvoting member on the Commission.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

19. A. Amend NRS 391.027 to remove cause for disapproval of any regulation adopted by the Commission.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

#### AND

B. Amend the NRS to require the Commission to provide a written report and present its activities to the Legislative Committee on Education annually, on or before December 1. The written report and presentation shall include, at a minimum:

- A summary of the regulations adopted by the Commission;
- A work plan designating the activities of the Commission during the next biennium; and
- A description of the progress of any regulations required through legislation pertaining to professional licensing in public education from the previous two legislative sessions, including a detailed explanation if certain regulations were not adopted if required by the legislation.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

20. Send a letter to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education, and the Commission on Professional Standards stressing the importance of streamlining the decision-making process for professional standards in a timely manner consistent with legislative intent. During the decision-making process, it is imperative to seek input from teachers and administrators representing all subject areas and all regions of the State, as well as seek the advice of national experts on the current state of professional licensing in education. The areas of reciprocity with other states, the effect of rigorous standards for teachers and administrators on student academic achievement, and certification needs of teachers who teach diverse populations have all been cited as areas in need of research and review by the Commission.

(NOTE: This item is included on the "Consent Calendar for Work Session.") (Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

### PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION (NRS 218E.605)

21. Send a letter to the Chair of the Legislative Committee on Education urging the solicitation of recommendations for issues to be reviewed by the Committee during the interim from the State Board of Education, Nevada State Education Association, the Nevada Association of School Administrators, local boards of trustees, a statewide organization for parents of pupils, and other organizations and entities related to education in this State. In addition, urge the Chair to consider any legislation approved through a previous legislative session and other educational topics considered by that session for potential issues to be reviewed by the Committee.

(NOTE: This item is included on the "Consent Calendar for Work Session.") (Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions and correspondence received from the Nevada Association of School Boards on April 26, 2010.)

## PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE LEGISLATIVE BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND PROGRAM EVALUATION (NRS 218E.625)

22. A. Amend the NRS to require the Bureau to assist the Legislative Committee on Education in monitoring the progress of changes and reformations of the State Board of Education, DOE, RPDPs, Commission on Professional Standards in Education, and the system of public education in this State generally, including an analysis of the effectiveness of the changes and reformations.

(Based upon findings of the Survey of Opinions.)

23. A. Amend the NRS to require the written report describing the duties and findings of the Bureau to be submitted to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau on or before October 1 instead of December 31. Add a requirement for the Bureau to submit the report to the Legislative Committee on Education prior to its first meeting each interim. (Based upon testimony at the March 2010 meeting of the Committee.)

#### AND

B. Include a statement in the final report in support of encouraging staff of the Bureau to meet with the Chair of the Legislative Committee on Education prior to the first meeting of the Committee to discuss the duties and findings of the Bureau, which may be helpful to the Committee during the interim.

(NOTE: This item is included on the "Consent Calendar for Work Session.") (Based upon testimony at the March 2010 meeting of the Committee.)

24. Amend NRS 385.359, which currently <u>requires</u> the Bureau to contract with a person or entity to review and analyze the reports of accountability and plans for improvement developed by school districts and the State Board of Education and instead <u>authorize</u> the Bureau, at the direction of the Committee, to convene a group of key stakeholders in education to conduct the review and analysis.

(Based upon correspondence received from representatives of the Bureau.)

25. Send a letter to the Bureau requesting a report on the progress of the DOE in accessing and utilizing federal funds. In providing the reports, indicate the amount of federal funds that have been returned to the federal government by budget account. The report should be sent to the Interim Finance Committee and the Legislative Committee on Education.

(NOTE: This item is included on the "Consent Calendar for Work Session.") (Based upon testimony at the March 2010 meeting of the Committee.)