



# Community Legislative Network Update

**As of  
February 24, 2011**

## CLN

- ◆ Superintendent's Committee
- ◆ Representatives from all stakeholder groups in the district
- ◆ Track and take positions on legislation

HOUSE BILLS  
HB 2002 – School District Monies;  
Associations

- ◆ **Prohibits a school district from paying for memberships in organizations that attempt to influence the outcome of elections**
- ◆ **Passed House Ed 2/14**
- ◆ **Ready for House Rules**

Original version of bill prohibited lobbying and this was removed. Has raised an interesting discussion centered on when public money becomes private money and how long it stays private.

## HOUSE BILLS

### HB 2234 – Lowest Achieving Schools

- ◆ **Permits the State Board of Education to assign a Persistent Lowest Achieving school a letter grade of F under AZ LEARNS**
- ◆ **Passed House Ed 1/24**
- ◆ **Passed House 3<sup>rd</sup> Read 2/8 58-1**
- ◆ **On Senate Ed Agenda 2/28**

## HOUSE BILLS

### HB 2301 – Instructional Salaries

- ◆ Requires that an instructional salaries fund within M & O that is cash controlled be established
- ◆ As amended requires a school district to spend at least 50% of the base support level on teacher and paraprofessional salaries
- ◆ Specifies that the monies shall be used for benefits in addition to salaries
- ◆ Adds teacher aides to the people entitled to received monies from the 50% requirement
- ◆ Districts must post the amount and percentage on website and send to ADE
- ◆ Allows soft capital to be used for any lawful purpose
- ◆ Passed House Ed 2/14
- ◆ Passed House Appropriations 2/23
- ◆ Ready for House Rules Committee

This bill initially only salaries of instructional staff, not benefits. Amendment to this has made the bill more palatable to districts but it does increase the administrative tasks of districts in terms of accounting.

## HOUSE BILLS

### HB 2415 – Bullying Policies

- ◆ **Requires additional reporting, disciplinary, and student-protection procedures to be adopted by school districts for bullying incidents**
- ◆ **Passed House Ed 2/17**
- ◆ **Passed House Rules 2/23**

## HOUSE BILLS

### HB 2421 – Budgets; Financial Reports

- ◆ **Requires each school district to display the AFR, proposed and final budgets on the district's official website and maintain those documents on the website for at least three consecutive fiscal years**
- ◆ **Requires the AFR to contain detailed information on expenditures of funds approved during the most recent override election**
- ◆ **Passed House Ed 1/31**
- ◆ **Passed House 3<sup>rd</sup> Read 2/17 56-4**
- ◆ **Assigned Senate Ed and Rules 2/21**

PVUSD posts current budgets on our website currently.

## HOUSE BILLS

### HB 2670 – Electronic Record Keeping

- ◆ **For permanent records requirements, allows a district to store them electronically, on paper, or a combination of the two**
- ◆ **Passed House Ed 2/14**
- ◆ **Passed House Rules 2/23**
- ◆ **CLN Supports**

**SENATE BILLS**  
**SB 1116 – Displaced Pupils;  
Choice Grants**

- ◆ **Removes the July 1, 2011, repeal date for the Displaced Pupils Choice Grant Program and makes the Program permanent**
- ◆ **Passed Senate Education 1/24**
- ◆ **Passed Senate Committee of Whole**
- ◆ **CLN Opposes**

CLN opposes based on voucher.

## SENATE BILLS

### SB 1152 – Home Schools

- ◆ **Updates the definition of *home school* to clarify that homeschooling is a form of private education**
- ◆ **Passed Senate Education 1/24**
- ◆ **Passed Senate 3<sup>rd</sup> read 2/10 29-0**
- ◆ **Assigned to House Education and Rules 2/15**
- ◆ **CLN Opposes**

CLN in discussions had concerns about how this new label may or may not affect future decisions regarding tax credits for home schooled children.

## SENATE BILLS

### SB 1167 – ASRS Amendments

- ◆ **Requires employers to pay an Alternate Contribution Rate (ACR,) beginning on July 1, 2013, for retired members who perform services that would otherwise be performed by an employee of the employer**
- ◆ **Contains many other changes on distributions and purchase service**
- ◆ **Passed Senate Finance 1/27**
- ◆ **Passed Senate Committee of Whole**
- ◆ **Passed Senate 3<sup>rd</sup> Read 2/8 29-0**
- ◆ **Passed House Employment and Regulatory Affairs Committee 2/22**

## SENATE BILLS

### SB 1263 – Administrative Tasks, Reduction

- ◆ **Continues the current Classroom Site Fund non-supplanting for another year**
- ◆ **Sets the Classroom Site Fund per pupil budget amount at \$120 for FY 2012**
- ◆ **For the next 2 years, the override budget calculations may be based on the actual base level plus statutory increases, and the prior Group B weight for full day K**
- ◆ **Allows districts to use unrestricted capital for the next two years for any capital or operational purpose**
- ◆ **Provides unlimited M/O budget carryover for the next two years**
- ◆ **Employment contracts for school superintendents shall be structured so that up to 20% of the superintendent's annual salary is classified as performance pay**
- ◆ **Reduces the notice time for closing a school to 10 days**

This does provide districts with some flexibility and this is why we support.

## SENATE BILLS

### SB 1263 – Administrative Tasks, Reduction (Continued)

- ◆ **Allows districts to go back to voters to obtain authorization to change the list of approved bond projects and a plan to temporarily increase bonding capacity for FY 2012 through FY 2015 to 10% for Elem/HS districts and 17% for unified districts**
- ◆ **Repeals statute requiring school district governing boards to adopt and vote on school recess policies at a public hearing**
- ◆ **Eliminates many reporting requirements**
- ◆ **Passed Senate Ed 2/7**
- ◆ **Withdrawn from Senate Appropriations**
- ◆ **Ready for Senate Rules**
- ◆ **CLN Supports**

## SENATE BILLS

### SB 1329 – Public Employees

- ◆ Prohibits a public employee who is not a designated or authorized lobbyist to lobby a governmental entity during hours of employment
- ◆ Allows for a public employee to lobby during working hours if they are on vacation, comp, or a leave of absence
- ◆ Passed Senate Government Reform 2/9
- ◆ Ready for Senate Committee of Whole

## SENATE BILLS

### SB 1453 – Parents' Rights

- ◆ **Allows a parent to withdraw their student from any learning material or activity that they object to because it is deemed harmful by the parent**
- ◆ **States that a parent of a student in a public educational institution has the right to review learning material and activities in advance, upon written request**
- ◆ **Defines objection to a learning material or activity on the basis that it is harmful as an objection due to sexual content, violent content, or profane or vulgar language**
- ◆ **On Senate Ed agenda 2/14**
- ◆ **Passed Senate Rules 2/22**
- ◆ **Ready for Senate Committee of Whole**
- ◆ **CLN Opposes**

CLN has concerns that this type of bill takes local control away from governing boards and is too broad in definition.

## SENATE BILLS

### SB 1521 – Head Injuries

- ◆ **Requires Governing Boards to prescribe and enforce policy re: guidelines, forms, and information to parents on the risks of head injuries**
- ◆ **Mandates that a student be removed from an athletic event, practice or other interscholastic activity if the student is suspected of having sustained a head injury or concussion**
- ◆ **Requires parents of students who participate in school athletics to sign an annual information form stating their awareness of the dangers of head injuries and concussions**
- ◆ **Passed Senate Ed 2/7**
- ◆ **Passed Senate Committee of Whole**

## SENATE BILLS

### SB 1553 – AZ Empowerment Accounts

- ◆ Establishes Arizona Empowerment Accounts to provide educational options for special education students
- ◆ Requires the State to deposit monies to each Empowerment Account equal to 90% of state aid that would otherwise be allocated for a student and computed using all state funding weights
- ◆ Requires the Department of Revenue (DOR) to contract with private financial management firms to manage Arizona Empowerment Accounts
- ◆ Passed Senate Ed 2/14
- ◆ Ready for Senate Rules
- ◆ CLN Opposes

CLN opposes because it is a voucher.

