

Under the Dome #1: Monthly Legislative Update

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Presentation Overview

- 2012 General Assembly
- The Basis for Action
- League's Legislative Package
- Other Bills/Issues of Interest
- SBE Rulemaking
- Questions



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2012 General Assembly

- 100 members; 65 House & 35 Senate
- Several new legislators, but little change
- Split Majorities
 - R's hold one seat majority in House: 33-32
 - D's hold 5 seat majority in Senate: 20-15
- House Ed Comm.: 7-6 (Masse; Chair)
- Senate Ed Comm.: 4-3 (Bacon; Chair)



The Basis for Action



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League's Legislative Package

- ✓ SB 061: Application and Renewal
 - ✓ SB 067: Charter Schools as Nonprofits
 - ✓ Model Authorizer (In draft)
- Other Issues



SB 61: Application and Renewal

- Sponsors: Sen. K. King and Rep. Massey
- Contents
 - ✓ Expands application requirements
 - ✓ Clarifies and sharpens application process
 - ✓ Requires annual performance review
 - ✓ Shines a spotlight on CS in turnaround
 - ✓ Requires authorizers develop a closure process



SB 67 – CS as Nonprofits

- Sponsors: Sen. Hudak and Rep. Holbert
- Contents
 - ✓ Requires that all charter schools incorporate as a nonprofit in Colorado by July 2013
 - ✓ Requires that parties to a charter contract must be an authorizer and a nonprofit
 - ✓ Does NOT preclude nonprofit boards from contracting with a for-profit



Model Authorizer (in draft)

- Sponsor: Rep. Ramirez (no Sen. yet)
- Contents
 - ✓ Require SBE to develop a M.A. evaluation
 - ✓ Allows any authorizer to be evaluated
 - ✓ If M.A. status is achieved, authorizer offered benefits around appeals, new schools, and oversight/renewals
 - ✓ Status reviewed every two years



Other League Issues

- ✓ Clarifying charter school independent grant eligibility
- ✓ BEST program
- ✓ CSI administrative functions
- ✓ Protecting current funding streams and ensuring CS' receive required dollars



House Bills of Interest

- HB1013: Interventions For MS Students
- HB1043: Concurrent Enrollment Requirements
- HB1072: Higher Ed Prior Learning Assessments
- HB1124: Colorado Digital Learning Study
- HB1135: Teacher Involvement in Prep Programs
- HB1146: Funding For Dropout Recovery Prog.
- HB1149: Parents Request Action On
Low-performing Schools



Senate Bills of Interest

- SB15: Optional Category of Higher Ed Tuition
- SB45: Higher Ed Assoc Degree Transfer Students
- SB46: Discipline In Public Schools
- SB47: Basic Skills Testing In High School
- SB51: Contract Requirements For School Districts



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Other Issues TBD

- Online education
- Early literacy
- At-risk funding for charter schools?
- Ed Finance



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SBE Rulemaking

- SB 10-191 Rules – Nov 11
- Charter School and Authorizer Standards
 - Jan 12
- Charter School Independent Grant Eligibility
 - Spring 12
- Charter School Automatic Waivers
 - Spring/Summer 12



Staying Up to Date

- ✓ League page on CO Capitol Watch:
<http://www.coloradocapitolwatch.com/bill-tracker/1/637/2012/>
- ✓ Tune into future webinars:
Feb 14, March 13, April 10, May 14
- ✓ Attend Annual Conference! Feb. 23-24
- ✓ Email or call the League:
Charter411@coloradoleague.org
303-989-5356



Questions?

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