Legislative Update

January 26, 2018

Interim Teaching Certificate Bill on Track to Head to House

SB 727 reported from committee this week with substitute S-1 and has been placed on the order of third reading in the Senate. The bill would modify the criteria used to issue an interim teaching certificate. It would delete the requirement that an individual pass the basic skills examination, as well as make other changes regarding a teaching program provider. The Superintendent of Public Instruction would be required to establish a process for an individual to earn an interim teaching certificate that qualifies the individual to teach in the public schools and earn a Michigan teaching certificate. The process must require that an individual be a participant in an alternative teaching program that is approved by the Superintendent.

An analysis of the bill as it left committee can be found here.

Oakland Schools has no position on this bill.

Enhancement Millage Bill Including Charters Soon to be Presented to Governor

SB 574 has passed both the House and Senate as of this week and has been ordered enrolled. The bill, co-sponsored by Mike Kowall, will define a charter school as a constituent district of an ISD for the purpose of a county-wide enhancement millage. Oakland Schools is opposed to the legislation. Oakland Senators Robertson, Marleau, Knollenberg, and Kowall voted yes, while Sen. Vincent Gregory voted no.

EDP Modification Bills Report from Committee

SBs 684-685 reported favorably from the Economic Development and International Investment Committee with substitute S-1 on Tuesday. The bills would modify the requirements of an educational development plan and a school improvement plan to include additional information on careers, learning activities, and other opportunities. Oakland Schools has been supportive of the concept of these bills with some modifications and with adequate funding tied to the bills,
while MASA opposes them. A summary of the bills as they left committee can be found here.

**Deed Restriction Bill Sent to Governor**

SB 702, which changes deed restriction language in the Educational Instruction Access Act, was presented to the Governor. The bill would amend the Educational Instruction Access Act to prohibit any deed restriction or affirmative use deed restriction on property sold by a local governmental body that affirmatively allowed for only one or more specified uses or purposes that did not include an educational use or purpose. Oakland Schools opposes this bill. You can read an explanation of this bill here.

**Bills Limiting Millage Ballot Proposals to Certain Elections Receive Committee Hearing**

HBs 4814-4815 (Albert and Lilly respectively) were on the agenda for the January 25 House Elections and Ethics committee. HB 4814 would amend the General Property Tax Act to provide that millage questions could only be submitted to voters at an August or November election, with the exception of nonhomestead school operating millage questions. HB 4815 would amend the Michigan Election Law to incorporate this change into four sections of the Law that deal with the scheduling of elections.

Oakland Schools opposes 4814 and 4815.