

Select Bills Introduced in the Illinois General Assembly
Pertaining to Education
January 21, 2023
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House Bill 1003—Flowers. Amends the Chicago School District Article of the School Code. Provides that beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, the Chicago Board of Education shall require the top 20% of the lowest performing schools in the school district, as determined by the Board, to employ a school nurse in conformance with certain provisions of the Code concerning school nurses. Effective immediately. House Rules.

House Bill 1004—Flowers. Amends the School Code. Provides that, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, the Chicago school district must include in its curriculum a unit of instruction on nursing. Requires the State Board of Education to prepare and make available to the school board resource materials that may be used as guidelines for the development of the nursing instruction. Effective immediately. House Rules.

House Bill 1009—Flowers. Creates the Lead in Schools Reporting Act. Provides that on an annual basis the Department of Public Health, in coordination with local departments of public health serving the City of Chicago, shall conduct specified lead testing at public school facilities within the City. Provides that the results from such testing shall be transmitted to the State Board of Education. Provides that the Department shall notify the State Board if a detected lead level meets a level that the Department deems unsafe. Amends the School Code. Provides that the school report cards for the Chicago school district shall include lead testing results and that students in the district may transfer from one attendance center to another attendance center within or outside of the district if any lead levels at his or her current attendance center meet a level that the Department deems unsafe. Makes other changes to the provisions concerning transfers. House Rules.

House Bill 1010—Flowers. Amends the Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act. Provides that a school's comprehensive health education program must include instruction on the medical and legal ramifications of cannabis use. Effective immediately. House Rules.

House Bill 1011—Flowers. Amends the School Code. Sets forth a list of nonfiction, fiction, and children's books about racism that shall be required reading for students in every public elementary and secondary school beginning with the 2023-2024 school year. Requires that the instruction in the material presented by each book be age appropriate and taught at the appropriate grade level. Effective immediately. House Rules.

House Rules 1012—Flowers. Amends the School Code. Requires the instruction on character education to include the teaching of respect toward a person's race or ethnicity or gender. With regard to the State Board of Education's school report card, requires data collected on curriculum information to include information on a school's instruction on character education. House Rules.

House Bill 1072—Chris Miller. Amends the School Code. Requires a school board to ensure parents and guardians of pupils enrolled in the school district are free to petition the school board and provide public comment at all public and regularly scheduled meetings, have access to certain information, are well-informed on specified subject matters, and have the right to meet with a pupil's teacher at least twice per school year. Requires a school board to ensure curriculum and learning materials are posted on the school district's Internet website. Effective immediately. House Rules.

House Bill 1081—Maurice West. Amends the School Code. Requires school districts with a population of 3,000 or more students to interview a minimum percentage of minority candidates for teaching positions. Exempts teaching positions within an English as a Second Language program from the requirement. Sets forth the formula for the school district to use to calculate the minimum percentage required. Provides that

if the school district is unable to interview the required minimum percentage of minority candidates for 2 consecutive years, the school district must implement a program for school district employees interested in obtaining a Professional Educator License. Effective immediately. House Rules.

House Bill 1095—Flowers. Appropriates \$26,000,000 to the State Board of Education for the purpose of providing a grant to City of Chicago School District 299 to employ individuals licensed as school nurses to provide health care-related services to students in the district and to eliminate any contracts with outside entities entered into to provide nurses for the district's schools. Effective July 1, 2023. House Rules.

House Bill 1099—Flowers. Creates the Children's Mental Health Local Collaborative Transformation Fund Act. Creates local children's mental health collaboratives. Defines "local children's mental health collaborative" as an entity formed by the agreement of representatives of the local system of care, including mental health services, social services, correctional services, education services, health services, and vocational services, for the purpose of developing and governing an integrated service system. Provides that, to qualify as a local children's mental health collaborative and be eligible to receive start-up funds, the representatives of the local system of care and nongovernmental entities (such as parents of children in the target population; parent and consumer organizations; community, civic, and religious organizations; private and nonprofit mental and physical health care providers; culturally specific organizations; local foundations; and businesses) or, at a minimum, one county, one school district or special education cooperative, one mental health entity, and one juvenile justice or juvenile corrections entity, must agree to the following: (1) to establish a local children's mental health collaborative and develop an integrated service system; (2) to commit resources to providing services through the local children's mental health collaborative; and (3) to develop a plan to contribute funds to the children's mental health collaborative. Effective January 1, 2024. House Rules.

House Bill 1107—West. Amends the School Code. Requires a school district to develop and implement a plan to provide additional instructional services, support, or special accommodations to students who suffer from trauma related to experiencing the death of a sibling, parent, guardian, or household member by suicide or homicide or suffer from trauma caused by domestic violence or abuse and whom the school has determined require additional instructional services, support, or special accommodations but do not qualify for an individualized education program or for services under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Sets forth what the plan may include. Provides that the plan shall remain in place until the student (i) is no longer enrolled in the district or (ii) has made such significant and sustained academic progress that the student no longer requires the plan. In provisions relating to children with disabilities, provides that beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, the notice that a school board provides concerning who qualifies for services under Section 504 shall include that a child may qualify for those services if the child is a student who is at least 3 years old or older and under 22 years and who (i) has experienced the death of a sibling, parent, guardian, or household member by suicide or homicide or (ii) suffers from trauma caused by domestic violence or abuse. Effective immediately. House Rules.

House Bill 1123—Costa Howard. Amends the School Code. Requires school report cards prepared by the State Superintendent of Education to include the percentage of students with disabilities who have fulfilled the minimum State graduation requirements and have been issued a regular high school diploma and the percentage of students with disabilities who have fulfilled the minimum State graduation requirements but have not completed their individualized education program and are enrolled and receiving individualized education program services. House Rules.

House Bill 1124—Mussman. Amends the School Code. Provides that the dyslexia handbook developed by the State Board of Education shall include guidelines on the administration of a universal screener and dyslexia screening, the interpretation of data from these screeners, and the resulting appropriate instruction within a multi-tiered system of support framework. Provides that the State Board of Education shall adopt any rules necessary to ensure that a student will be screened for the risk factors of dyslexia using a universal screener. Sets forth which students are required to be screened. Provides that no later than January 1, 2024, the State Board of Education shall employ at least 5 dyslexia specialists or dyslexia therapists with a minimum of 5 years of field experience in screening, identifying, and treating dyslexia

and related disorders. Provides that beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, each school district must screen students in grades kindergarten through 2 for the risk factors of dyslexia using a universal screener approved by the State Board of Education. Provides that if a student is determined to be either at risk or at some risk for dyslexia after the universal screener has been administered, the school district must administer a dyslexia screening of the student. Provides that if a student's dyslexia screening indicates that the student has characteristics of dyslexia, the dyslexia intervention services provided to the student must utilize a structured literacy approach as outlined in the State Board of Education's handbook. Makes other changes. House Rules.

House Bill 1142—Wilhour. Amends the School Code. Requires the State Board of Education to establish and administer a program in which the State Board shall issue a voucher to the parent or guardian of a student, upon request of the parent or guardian, if: (1) the student was enrolled in a school district for a particular school year; (2) during that school year, the school board decided not to provide an option for full-time, in-person instruction at school as the primary method of instruction to students; and (3) the parent or guardian withdrew the student from enrollment in the district because the school board decided not to provide an option for full-time, in-person instruction. Sets forth provisions concerning the voucher amount and its use. Effective immediately. House Rules.

House Bill 1200—DeLuca. Amends the State Commemorative Dates Act. Provides that the name of each federal holiday and State holiday designated on a unit of local government's calendar must match the name of the federal holiday and State holiday as designated by the State. Defines "federal holiday" and "State holiday". Limits home rule powers. Amends the School Code. In a provision concerning legal holidays, requires the name of each federal and State holiday as specified in that provision to be the name of the holiday that is designated on a school district's calendar for the school term. Effective immediately. Filed with the Clerk.

House Bill 1201—Barbara Hernandez-- Amends the School Code. Specifies that menstrual hygiene products shall be made available in all bathrooms (rather than in bathrooms) of every school building that are open for student use in grades 4 through 12 during the regular school day. Provides that the school employee or third-party contractor who is responsible for ordering, stocking, and replenishing the supply of toilet tissue and paper towels in school bathrooms shall be responsible for ordering, stocking, and replenishing the supply of menstrual hygiene products in the bathrooms. Effective immediately. Filed with the Clerk.

House Bill 1204—Tarver II. Amends the Compulsory Attendance Article of the School Code. Allows a child to be absent from a public school on a particular day or days or at a particular time of day to attend the ceremonial induction into office of the child's parent or legal guardian as a newly elected government official. Provides that the student and parent or legal guardian are responsible for obtaining assignments from the student's teacher prior to the period of excused absence and for ensuring that such assignments are completed by the student prior to the student's return to school from that period of excused absence.

House Bill 1211—Buckner. Amends the evidence-based funding provisions of the School Code. Provides that funds received by the Chicago school district for low-income, English learner, and special education resources must be distributed to every school of the district in the appropriate amount specified under the Essential Elements component of the funding formula. Effective July 1, 2023. Filed with the Clerk.

House Bill 1214—Caulkins. Amends the School Code. Provides that, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, shall establish and maintain a Temporary Teacher Apprenticeship Program to assist qualified participants in acquiring a Professional Educator License. Provides that the State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, may establish and adopt any rules necessary to implement this program, including the standards that a qualified participant must meet to receive a Professional Educator License. Sets forth the requirements to complete the program. Provides that upon completing the requirements of the program, a qualified participant is eligible for a Professional Educator License. Makes related changes. Effective immediately. Filed with the Clerk.

House Bill 1215—Caulkins. Amends the Educator Licensure Article of the School Code. Provides that, subject to appropriation, any candidate who is considered either a former or active first responder or military personnel shall receive a refund for any costs associated with completing a test of content area knowledge. Provides that, subject to appropriation, any candidate who is considered either a former or active first responder or military personnel shall receive a refund for any costs associated with completing a teacher performance assessment. Provides that no former or active first responder or military personnel may be charged an application fee under specified provisions. Effective July 1, 2023. Filed with the Clerk.

House Bill 1234—Carroll. Amends the School Code. Provides that any school receiving public funds shall post in a space accessible to all students information detailing the mental health resources provided by the school and the State that are available to students. Filed with the Clerk.

House Bill 1243—Carroll. Amends the Course of Study Article of the School Code. Requires each public school to provide a separate course of study on mental health that instructs students on how to recognize the signs of anxiety, depression, and other forms of mental illness. Provides that all students in grades kindergarten through 12 must take the course each school year, beginning with the 2024-2025 school year. Provides that the course length must be at least one semester or its equivalent but that the school board shall determine the minimum amount of instructional time required for the course. Requires the State Board of Education to prepare and make available to school boards resource materials on mental illness that must be used as guidelines for the development of the course. Filed with the Clerk.

House Bill 1246—Reick. Amends the School Code. By July 15 of each year, requires certain school boards to report, on their school district's website, a list of the learning materials and activities used for student instruction during the previous school year. Requires that the report also include any procedures that are in effect at each school for the documentation, review, or approval of the learning materials and activities used for student instruction. Specifies the minimum information that must be included in the report. Allows a school district to update the report on an ongoing basis and to utilize collaborative online document or spreadsheet software to update or make additions to the report. Sets forth other requirements. Effective July 1, 2023. Filed with the Clerk.

House Bill 1247—Reick and Niemerg. Amends the Downstate Teacher and Chicago Teacher Articles of the Illinois Pension Code. Provides that none of the benefits provided for in either Article shall be paid to a person if the person first becomes a member on or after the effective date of the amendatory Act and a board, after an administrative hearing, determines that the person sexually abused a student. Provides that an employer must notify a board if a retiring member has been accused of sexually abusing a student. Provides that a board may, through an administrative hearing, review the claim of sexual abuse and may order that benefits be forfeited. Provides that the changes made by the amendatory Act shall not operate to impair any contract or vested right acquired before the effective date of the amendatory Act nor to preclude the right to a refund. Provides that all teachers entering service on or after the effective date of the amendatory Act shall be deemed to have consented to the provisions of the amendatory Act as a condition of membership. Makes conforming changes. Effective immediately. Filed with the Clerk.

House Bill 1273—Elik. Amends the School Code. Provides that Constitution Day (September 17) shall also be a commemorative holiday. Effective July 1, 2023. Filed with the Clerk.

House Bill 1278—Didech. Amends the Courses of Study Article of the School Code. Provides that beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, every public elementary school and high school shall include in its curriculum a unit of instruction studying the events of pre-Columbian Native American societies. Sets forth additional topics of instruction. Provides that beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, every public elementary school and high school shall include in its curriculum a unit of instruction studying the history of Native Americans during and after the American Revolution, as well as the contributions of Native Americans to the economic, cultural, social, and political development of the United States. Provides that the State Superintendent of Education may prepare and make available to all school boards instructional materials that may be used as guidelines for development of these units of instruction. Provides that a school may meet the curricular requirements through an online program or course. Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement. Filed with the Clerk.

House Bill 1291—Stuart. Amends the Educator Licensure Article of the School Code. In provisions concerning the Illinois Teaching Excellence Program, provides that the annual incentive shall be \$2,250 (instead of \$1,500) and that 45 hours of mentoring shall be required (instead of 30). Provides that funds may also be used for professional development training provided by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards or the National Board Resource Center. Effective immediately. Filed with the Clerk.

Senate Bill 1—Harmon. Creates the Early Childhood Education Act. Contains only a short title provision. Senate Assignments.

Senate Bill 77—Rezin. Amends the School Code. Requires the State Board of Education to cooperate with the Chicago school district to locate students that stopped attending school since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and to address issues of truancy and chronic absenteeism. Requires a regional superintendent of schools to increase the regional office of education's capacity to work with school districts to locate students that stopped attending school since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and to address issues of truancy and chronic absenteeism. Effective immediately. Senate Assignments.