

1 DRAFT PREPARED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
2 For: Sen. Hayes  
3 Attorney: Hray  
4 Stenographer: Morgan  
5 Date: November 1, 2010  
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9 **A BILL**

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13 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South  
14 Carolina:

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16 SECTION 1. Chapter 17, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended  
17 by adding:

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19 “Section 59-17-75. (A) School districts and communities are  
20 encouraged to collaborate and examine consolidation, sharing of  
21 services, or any organizational framework that improves a school  
22 district’s ability to meet the educational needs of students and the  
23 expectations of the local community.

24 (B) Beginning with Fiscal Year 2011-2012, consolidating  
25 districts shall receive per pupil general fund appropriations at the  
26 level of the district that received the most per pupil state aid prior  
27 to consolidation for four years after the date of consolidation. If  
28 per pupil general state aid is less in the first year of consolidation  
29 for the districts than it would have been had the districts not  
30 consolidated, the General Assembly shall make supplementary per  
31 pupil state aid payments equal to the difference for four years after  
32 the date of consolidation.

33 (C) For a four-year period following the date of consolidation,  
34 consolidating districts also shall receive state grants to compensate  
35 for any difference in teacher salaries, so that salaries for all  
36 teachers are increased to the same level within the consolidated  
37 district. If there is a difference between the salary a teacher earns  
38 in the new district and the salary the teacher would have been paid  
39 according to the salary schedule of the individual district, using the  
40 highest salary, the State shall make supplementary payments equal  
41 to the difference for the first four years of the consolidated district.

1 (D) Consolidating districts also may receive a one-time grant to  
2 cover some portion of the negative fund balance verified by audit  
3 that an individual district brings into the consolidation. A single  
4 supplemental aid payment must be made to the consolidated  
5 district equal to the difference between the largest and smallest  
6 deficit. For purposes of this subsection, a district with a positive  
7 fund balance is considered to have a deficit of zero.

8 (E) For three years following the date of consolidation, a  
9 consolidated district may not receive district report card ratings;  
10 however, individual schools within the consolidated district shall  
11 continue to receive individual report card ratings.”

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13 SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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