

Session 118 - (2009-2010)

H 3963 General Bill, By Battle, Miller, Harvin, Sellers, Vick, Funderburk, McLeod, Anderson, Clyburn, Agnew, Gilliard, Alexander, Anthony, Bales, Branham, G.A. Brown, Cobb-Hunter, Hayes, Hosey, Hutto, Jefferson, Jennings, Mack, J.H. Neal, J.M. Neal, Neilson, Ott, J.E. Smith, Whipper and Williams

Summary: Education

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59-20-26 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE LOCAL MATCH MUST BE REFERRED TO AS THE "INDEX OF SUPPORT" UNTIL THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY FOUNDATION PROGRAM IS IMPLEMENTED AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE VALUE OF OWNER-OCCUPIED PROPERTY MUST BE CALCULATED IN ITS CALCULATION UPON CERTAIN CONDITIONS; BY ADDING SECTION 59-20-90 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT NEW FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO EDUCATION MUST BE USED TO FUND FULLY THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM AND PUPIL WEIGHTINGS BEGINNING IN 2010; BY ADDING SECTION 59-20-100 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONSOLIDATION AND REALIGNMENT OF CERTAIN EIA FUNDS ACCORDING TO WEIGHTED PUPIL UNIT CATEGORIES, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE TRANSFERENCE OF CERTAIN FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM; BY ADDING SECTION 59-20-110 SO AS TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CREATE A COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE "PUBLIC SCHOOL INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM", TO PROVIDE WHAT MUST BE INCLUDED IN A GRANT PROPOSAL, TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUNDING OF GRANTS FOR THREE TO FIVE YEARS, AND TO PROVIDE THAT DISTRICTS MAY CARRY FORWARD GRANT FUNDS IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS; BY ADDING SECTION 59-20-120 SO AS TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CREATE A STUDY COMMITTEE TO DETERMINE THE COMPONENTS OF A TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY FOUNDATION PROGRAM, TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE AND OF THE DEPARTMENT IN RELATION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY FOUNDATION PROGRAM, TO PROVIDE FOR REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, AND TO REQUIRE THE STATE'S CHIEF ECONOMIST TO CONVENE A GROUP OF EXPERTS TO STUDY THE CURRENT INDEX OF TAXPAYING ABILITY AND TO RECOMMEND THE METHOD OF DETERMINING LOCAL SHARE OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY FOUNDATION PROGRAM; BY ADDING SECTION 59-20-130 SO AS TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE DISTRICTS WITH INFORMATION CONCERNING FINANCIAL BEST PRACTICES, TO REQUIRE A FISCAL MANAGEMENT TEAM TO REVIEW DISTRICT FINANCIAL PRACTICES AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS, TO REQUIRE STRUGGLING DISTRICTS TO ACT ON THESE RECOMMENDATIONS WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF RECEIVING THEM, AND TO DEFINE CERTAIN TERMS; BY ADDING SECTION 59-20-140 SO AS TO URGE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO GIVE FUNDING PRIORITY TO FULL-DAY, FOUR-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN FROM CHANGES MADE TO THE STATE TAX STRUCTURE; BY ADDING SECTION 59-20-150 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT STATE FUNDS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS MUST BE DISTRIBUTED IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM; TO AMEND SECTION 11-11-156, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO REIMBURSEMENT OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS FROM THE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION FUND, SO AS TO REVISE THE CALCULATION OF THE INFLATION FACTOR USED TO INCREASE TIER THREE REIMBURSEMENTS; TO AMEND SECTION 59-20-20, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS OF THE EDUCATION FINANCE ACT, SO AS TO DEFINE "INFLATION FACTOR"; TO AMEND SECTION 59-20-40, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO DETERMINATION OF ANNUAL ALLOCATIONS PURSUANT TO THE EDUCATION FINANCE ACT, SO AS TO REVISE WEIGHTING CATEGORY DESIGNATIONS, DELETE ADD-ON WEIGHTINGS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD, ADD ADD-ON WEIGHTINGS FOR ACADEMICALLY AND ARTISTICALLY HIGH ACHIEVING PUPILS, LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT PUPILS, AND PUPILS AT RISK, AND TO DEFINE CERTAIN TERMS; TO AMEND SECTION 59-21-1030, RELATING TO MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT, SO AS TO DELETE THE REQUIREMENT THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAINTAIN THE LEVEL OF PER PUPIL FINANCIAL EFFORT, TO REQUIRE DISTRICTS TO MAINTAIN THE LEVEL OF EFFORT PER PUPIL FOR NONCAPITAL PROGRAMS UNTIL THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY FOUNDATION PROGRAM IS IMPLEMENTED FULLY, AND TO DELETE THE PROVISION THAT PROVIDES FOR THE VOIDING OF WAIVERS BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UPON A DECLINE IN THE MEASURED ACADEMIC SUCCESS OF THE STUDENTS OF THE DISTRICT.

04/23/09 House Introduced and read first time HJ-273

04/23/09 House Referred to Committee on Ways and Means HJ-275