SECTION 1 - H630 - DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- **1.20 AMEND** (SDE: Proviso Allocations) Allows the department to reduce any allocation designated by proviso in Section 1 by the BEA revenue reduction percentage amount, while restricting the reduction of teacher salary allocations.
 - **PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** AMEND proviso to delete the reference to the EFA allocation to the SC Public Charter School District. Deletes the references that the reduction may not be greater than the total percentage reduction of the appropriation and the restriction of reduction of teacher salary allocations.
 - **1.20.** (SDE: Proviso Allocations) In the event an official General Fund revenue shortfall is declared by the Board of Economic Advisors, the Department of Education may reduce any allocation in Section 1 specifically designated by proviso in accordance with the lower Board of Economic Advisors revenue estimate as directed by the Executive Budget Office, except the additional EFA allocation to the South Carolina Public Charter School District. The reduction may not be greater than the total percentage of reduction of the Section 1 appropriation. Should the department hold back funds in excess of the total percentage reduction those funds must be allocated per the proviso. No allocation for teacher salaries shall be reduced as a result of this proviso.
- **1.21 AMEND** (SDE: School Districts and Special Schools Flexibility) Grants maximum transferability and expenditure of appropriated State funds for operations of school districts and special schools within certain guidelines; prohibits school districts from transferring specific funds allocated for certain purposes; and suspends specific requirements and assessments. Requires school districts to report the student teacher ratio for every classroom to the department at the 45 and 135 day mark and directs the department to report this information to the General Assembly. *Companion to EIA proviso 1A.13*.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to change the reference from the "2022-2023" school year to the "current" school year.

1.21. (SDE: School Districts and Special Schools Flexibility) All school districts and special schools of this State may transfer and expend funds among appropriated state general fund revenues, Education Improvement Act funds, and Education Lottery Act funds, and funds received from the Children's Education Endowment Fund for school facilities and fixed equipment assistance, to ensure the delivery of academic and arts instruction to students. However, a school district may not transfer funds allocated specifically for state level maintenance of effort requirements under IDEA, funds allocated specifically for state level maintenance of effort requirement for federal program, funds provided for the Education and Economic Development Act, funds provided for Career and Technology Education, nor funds required for debt service or bonded indebtedness. All school districts must report the student teacher ratio for every classroom to the Department of Education at the forty-fifth and the one hundred and thirty-fifth day mark. The department shall report this information to the General Assembly for the 2022-2023 current school year.

In order for a school district to take advantage of the flexibility provisions, at least seventy-five percent of the school district's per pupil expenditures must be utilized within the In\$ite categories of instruction, instructional support, and only transportation, food service, and safety within non-instruction pupil services. No portion of the seventy-five percent may be used for facilities, business services, debt service, capital outlay, program management, and leadership services, as defined by In\$ite. The school district shall report to the Department of Education the

actual percentage of its per pupil expenditures used for classroom instruction, instructional support, and transportation, food service, and safety within non-instruction pupil services for the current school year ending June thirtieth. Salaries of on-site principals must be included in the calculation of the district's per pupil expenditures.

"In\$ite" means the financial analysis model for education programs utilized by the Department of Education.

School districts are encouraged to reduce expenditures by means, including, but not limited to, limiting the number of low enrollment courses, reducing travel for the staff and the school district's board, reducing and limiting activities requiring dues and memberships, reducing transportation costs for extracurricular and academic competitions, restructuring administrative staffing, and expanding virtual instruction.

School districts and special schools may carry forward unexpended funds from the prior fiscal year into the current fiscal year.

Prior to implementing the flexibility authorized herein, school districts must provide to Public Charter Schools the per pupil allocation due to them for each categorical program.

Quarterly throughout the current fiscal year, the chairman of each school district's board and the superintendent of each school district must certify where non-instructional or nonessential programs have been suspended and the specific flexibility actions taken. The certification must be in writing, signed by the chairman and the superintendent, delivered electronically to the State Superintendent of Education, and an electronic copy forwarded to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee, the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee. Additionally, the certification must be presented publicly at a regularly called school board meeting, and the certification must be conspicuously posted on the internet website maintained by the school district.

For the current fiscal year, Section 59-21-1030 is suspended. The foreign language program assessment, and the physical education assessment must be suspended. School districts and the Department of Education are granted permission to purchase the most economical type of bus fuel

For the current fiscal year, savings generated from the suspension of the assessments enumerated above must be allocated to school districts based on weighted pupil units.

School districts must maintain a transaction register that includes a complete record of all funds expended over one hundred dollars, from whatever source, for whatever purpose. The register must be prominently posted on the district's internet website and made available for public viewing and downloading. The register must include for each expenditure:

- (i) the transaction amount;
- (ii) the name of the payee; and
- (iii) a statement providing a detailed description of the expenditure.

The register must not include an entry for salary, wages, or other compensation paid to individual employees. The register must not include any information that can be used to identify an individual employee. The register must be accompanied by a complete explanation of any codes or acronyms used to identify a payee or an expenditure. The register must be searchable and updated at least once a month.

Each school district must also maintain on its internet website a copy of each monthly statement for all of the credit cards maintained by the entity, including credit cards issued to its officers or employees for official use. The credit card number on each statement must be redacted prior to posting on the internet website. Each credit card statement must be posted not later than the thirtieth day after the first date that any portion of the balance due as shown on the statement is paid.

The Comptroller General must establish and maintain a website to contain the information required by this section from a school district that does not maintain its own internet website. The internet website must be organized so that the public can differentiate between the school districts and search for the information they are seeking.

The provisions contained herein do not amend, suspend, supersede, replace, revoke, restrict, or otherwise affect Chapter 4, Title 30, of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. Nothing in this proviso shall be interpreted as prohibiting the State Board of Education to exercise its authority to grant waivers under Regulation 43-261.

- 1.30 AMEND (SDE: Education Finance Act Reserve Fund) Establishes the EFA Reserve Fund. Directs that unexpended EFA general funds are to be transferred to the reserve fund. Directs that if insufficient funds are appropriated to fully fund the base student cost, the reserve fund may be used to supplement the funds appropriated. Authorizes unexpended funds to be carried forward. PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to update references from "Education Finance Act" to "State Aid to Classrooms". Delete reference to "base student cost" and insert "designated student-teacher ratio." Delete reference to EFA funds being utilized for bus purchase. Requested by the Department of Education.
 - **1.30.** (SDE: Education Finance Act State Aid to Classrooms Reserve Fund) There is created in the State Treasury a fund separate and distinct from the General Fund of the State and all other funds entitled the Education Finance Act State Aid to Classrooms Reserve Fund. All unexpended general funds appropriated to the Department of Education for the Education Finance Act State Aid to Classrooms in the current fiscal year shall be transferred to the Education Finance Act State Aid to Classrooms Reserve Fund. In the event that the amount appropriated for the Education Finance Act State Aid to Classrooms is insufficient to fully fund the base student cost designated student-teacher ratio as established by this act, revenues from the Education Finance Act State Aid to Classrooms Reserve Fund may be used to supplement the funds appropriated. By June 30th of the current fiscal year, if the department determines that the funds are not needed to supplement the Education Finance Act, the department may utilize the funds for bus purchase. The General Assembly may make direct appropriations to this fund. All unexpended funds in the Education Finance Act State Aid to Classrooms Reserve Fund and any interest accrued by the fund must remain in the fund and may be carried forward into the current fiscal year.
- 1.39 AMEND (SDE: Impute Index Value) Provides a methodology for the Department of Revenue to use for calculating the index of taxpaying ability for the current fiscal year.
 PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to delete reference to "EFA" and insert "General Appropriations Act." Requested by the Department of Education.
 - **1.39.** (SDE: Impute Index Value) For the current fiscal year and for the purposes of calculating the index of taxpaying ability the Department of Revenue shall impute an index value for owner-occupied residential property qualifying for the special four percent assessment ratio by adding the second preceding taxable year total school district reimbursements for Tier 1, 2, and Tier 3(A) and not to include the supplement distribution. The Department of Revenue shall not include sales ratio data in its calculation of the index of taxpaying ability. The methodology for the calculations for the remaining classes of property shall remain as required pursuant to the EFA General Appropriations Act and other applicable provisions of law.

1.40 AMEND (SDE: EFA State Share) Provides a supplement to a school district that does not recognize a share of State Aid to Classrooms funding by an amount equal to 70% of the least State financial requirement.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to update title from "EFA" to "State Aid to Classrooms." Updates the supplement amount from "seventy" to "seventy-five" percent. Requested by the Department of Education.

- **1.40.** (SDE: EFA <u>State Aid to Classrooms</u> State Share) A school district that does not recognize a State share of State Aid to Classrooms shall be supplemented with an amount equal to <u>seventy seventy-five</u> percent of the school district with the least State financial requirement.
- **1.63 AMEND** (SDE: Special Education Minutes Requirement) Directs the department to waive the required 250 minutes of specialized instruction a student is required to receive in order to qualify for the EFA special education weighting. Allow a special education weighting to be applied for any public school child who has an Individualized Education Program, regardless of the number of minutes of instruction. Requested by the Department of Education.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to delete "EFA" and insert "State Aid to Classrooms."

- **1.63.** (SDE: Special Education Minutes Requirement) For the current fiscal year the required two-hundred fifty minutes of specialized instruction a student is required to receive in order to qualify for the special education weighting in the EFA <u>State Aid to Classrooms</u> is waived. A special education weighting may be applied for any public school child with an Individualized Education Program in effect, regardless of the number of minutes of instruction.
- **AMEND** (SDE: Consolidate Administrative Functions) Allows the State Superintendent of Education, under certain circumstances, to consolidate administrative and professional services of a school district with one or more other school districts. Provides a timeline for a plan to be implemented and directs that if the district fails to comply, the department shall withhold 1% of the district's EFA allocation until they are in compliance.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to delete references to "EFA" and insert "State Aid to Classrooms." Requested by the Department of Education.

1.69. (SDE: Consolidate Administrative Functions) For the current fiscal, any school district that has an average daily membership of less than 1,500 students, has been designated in Fiscal Watch, Caution or Emergency status, has a risk assessment of medium or high, has a school or is a district with an accreditation status of probation or denied, or has a school or schools that have been in improvement status for three years may be directed by the State Superintendent of Education to consolidate administrative and professional services with one or more school districts. Administrative and professional services may include, but are not limited to: finance, human resources, procurement, administrative functions, transportation and collaboration on increasing instructional offerings. The Superintendent shall notify a district in writing that they meet one or more of the criteria. The district then has thirty business days from receipt of the notification to deliver a plan to the Superintendent for her approval. The Superintendent must either approve or amend the plan within fifteen days. Plans must be implemented within sixty days of approval. If a district fails to submit a plan, the Superintendent shall direct the consolidation of services with another school district and if the district fails to comply, the department shall withhold one percent of the district's EFA <u>State Aid to Classrooms</u> allocation

until the district does comply. At that time, the EFA <u>State Aid to Classrooms</u> payments shall resume and any EFA <u>State Aid to Classrooms</u> funds withheld shall be allocated to the district.

1.71 AMEND (SDE: Teacher Salaries/SE Average) States that the projected Southeastern average teacher salary is projected to be \$55,898. Requires a local district board of trustees to provide a step increase for all eligible certified teachers. Requires districts to use the district salary schedule used in the prior fiscal year as the basis for providing the increase. Suspends the requirement that districts maintain local salary supplements per teacher no less than their prior fiscal year. *Companion to EIA proviso 1A.31*.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to update projected teacher salary and fiscal year.

1.71. (SDE: Teacher Salaries/SE Average) The projected Southeastern average teacher salary shall be the average of the average teachers' salaries of the southeastern states as projected by the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. For the current school year, the Southeastern average teacher salary is projected to be \$55,898 \$58,048. The General Assembly remains desirous of raising the average teacher salary in South Carolina through incremental increases over the next few years so as to make such equivalent to the national average teacher salary.

Additionally, for the current fiscal year, a local school district board of trustees must increase the salary compensation for all eligible certified teachers employed by the district by no less than one year of experience credit using at a minimum the district salary schedule utilized the prior fiscal year as the basis for providing the step. Application of this provision must be applied uniformly for all eligible certified teachers. For Fiscal Year 2022-23 2023-24, the requirement that school districts maintain local salary supplements per teacher no less than their prior fiscal year level is suspended.

For purposes of this provision, teachers shall be defined by the Department of Education using the Professional Certified Staff (PCS) System.

1.72 AMEND (SDE: School District Hold Harmless) Specifies that districts are held harmless from the Fiscal Accountability Act local school district reserve fund requirement for the fiscal year, upon approval by the department, if there is not an increase in state support disbursed pursuant to Proviso 1.3 and if the district must use their reserve funds to pay for teacher pay raises. **PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** AMEND proviso to delete

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to delete reference to "Fiscal Year 2022-23" and insert "the current fiscal year."

- **1.72.** (SDE: School District Hold Harmless) If there is not an increase in state support for school districts that is disbursed pursuant to Proviso 1.3 in this act, any district that must use reserve funds to pay for teacher pay raises, to include step increases, shall be held harmless from the local school district's reserve fund requirement provisions in the Fiscal Accountability Act for Fiscal Year 2022 23 the current fiscal year and upon approval by the Department of Education.
- **1.74 AMEND** (SDE: Standard-Based Assessments Suspended) Suspends Section 59-18-325(C)(3) which requires science standards-based assessments in grade 8 and social studies standards-based assessments in grades 5 and 7. Directs the department to use \$500,000 of the funds available due to the assessment suspension to fund South Carolina Computer Science and Digital Literacy Standards educator professional development and to use the remaining funds to pay for industry certification/credentials as approved to measure College/Career Readiness.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to delete reference to "Fiscal Year 2022-23" and insert "the current fiscal year."

- **1.74.** (SDE: Standards-Based Assessments Suspended) In Fiscal Year 2022 23 the current fiscal year, the provisions of Section 59-18-325(C)(3) of the 1976 Code requiring science standards-based assessments of students in grade eight and social studies standards-based assessments of students in grades five and seven are suspended. Of the funds available due to the suspension of these assessments, \$500,000 must be used by the Department of Education to fund educator professional development regarding the South Carolina Computer Science and Digital Literacy Standards. The remainder of the funds shall be used to pay for industry certification/credentials as approved to measure College/Career Readiness for purposes of the state accountability system.
- 1.75 AMEND (SDE: COVID-19 Emergency Powers) Authorizes the Superintendent of Education to exercise certain emergency powers in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. (A) Authorizes Superintendent of Education to provide maximum financial flexibility, including the authority to carry forward cash balances to local districts adjusting to operations due to COVID-19. (B) Authorizes department cash balances to be carried forward and allows the superintendent to transfer any department appropriations to assist local school districts to use summer reading camps and all other available tools to ensure satisfaction of learning needs. (C) Requires the superintendent to provide a report on the emergency powers exercised to the Senate Finance Committee, the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee, the Senate Education Committee, and the House of Representatives Education and Public Works Committee by August 1, 2022.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to delete the phrase "adjusting operations." Deletes "COVID-19" and inserts "pandemic learning loss." Updates calendar year reference.

- **1.75.** (SDE: COVID-19 Emergency Powers) (A) The Superintendent of Education is authorized to provide maximum financial flexibility including, but not limited to, the authority to carry forward any cash balances to local school districts adjusting to operations in response to COVID-19.
- (B) The State Superintendent of Education is authorized to carry forward any cash balances maintained by the Department of Education. The superintendent is further authorized to transfer any appropriations within the department to assist local school districts to use summer reading camps and all other available tools to ensure appropriate time is spent by students to keep them on grade level and satisfy their learning needs adjusting operations in response to COVID-19 pandemic learning loss.
- (C) On or before August 1, 2022 2023, the State Superintendent of Education shall provide a report to the Senate Finance Committee, the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee, the Senate Education Committee, and the House of Representatives Education and Public Works Committee concerning the emergency powers exercised in this provision.
- **1.76 AMEND** (SDE: Formative Assessment Data) Requires districts to ensure that all students in first through eighth grades are assessed using a state approved interim assessment tool during the fall, winter, and spring. Directs school districts to provide 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 interim and formative assessment data scores by grade and school to the department. Directs the department to compile the information and submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly by

January 31st. Directs that any school district that fails to provide the data shall have 10% of their EFA funding withheld until the data is provided.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to delete "2022-2023" and insert "current" in reference to the school year. Deletes "2021-2022 and 2022-2023" and inserts "from the prior school year" relating to assessment data scores. Updates reporting date from "January" to "May."

- **1.76.** (SDE: Formative Assessment Data) For the <u>2022-2023 current</u> school year, districts must ensure all students in first through eighth grades are assessed using a state approved interim assessment tool during the fall, winter, and spring. School districts shall provide all <u>2021-2022 and 2022-2023</u> interim and formative assessment data scores by grade and school to the Department of Education *from the prior school year*. The department is directed to compile the information received and submit a comprehensive report regarding performance on such assessments to the General Assembly by <u>January May</u> 31 of the current fiscal year. Any school district failing to provide this data to the department shall have ten percent of their State Aid to Classrooms funding withheld until the data is provided.
- **1.77 DELETE** (SDE: School District Employees Data) Requires school districts provide a report to the department by October 1, 2021, that details school, district administration, and Career Centers employees and directs that the report specify job duties and indicate the number of individuals who primarily provide classroom instruction. Directs the department compile this information and submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DELETE proviso.

- 1.77. (SDE: School District Employees Data) By October 1, 2021, school districts shall provide a report detailing school, district administration, and Career Centers employees to the Department of Education. The report shall specify job duties and indicate the number of individuals whose primary job is to provide classroom instruction. The department is directed to compile the information received into a comprehensive report and submit such report to the General Assembly.
- 1.80 AMEND (SDE: Public School Virtual Program Funding) Allows school districts to offer a virtual education program for up to 5% of its student population based on the most recent 135 ADM count without impacting the state funding it receives. Direct the department to establish guidelines and parameters for the virtual program and require districts to submit their virtual program plans to the State Board of Education for approval. Require participating districts to report certain information to the department. Direct that for every student participating above the 5% threshold, the district shall not receive 47.22% of the State per pupil funding provided pursuant to proviso 1.3. Direct that the 5% threshold shall not apply to students whose IEP or 504 status requires they participate in a program administered in a virtual format.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to delete "Fiscal Year 2022-23" and insert "the current fiscal year."

1.80. (SDE: Public School Virtual Program Funding) For Fiscal Year 2022-23 the current fiscal year, school districts shall be permitted to offer a virtual education program for up to five percent of its student population based on the most recent 135 day ADM count without impacting any state funding. The Department of Education shall establish guidelines for the virtual program and parameters students must meet in order to participate in the virtual program. School districts must submit their plans for the virtual program to the State Board of Education for approval.

School districts offering a virtual program must report their ADM counts for students participating in their virtual program and the number of students participating face to face for the 5th, 45th, 90th, and 135th day to the Department of Education.

For every student participating in the virtual program above the five percent threshold, the school district will not receive 47.22% of the State per pupil funding provided to that district as reported in the latest Revenue and Fiscal Affairs revenue per pupil report pursuant to Proviso 1.3. This amount shall be withheld from State Aid to Classroom's district allocation.

The five percent threshold shall not apply to students whose IEP or 504 status requires their participation in a program administered in a virtual format.

- **1.83 AMEND** (SDE: Retired Teacher Salary Negotiation) Allows school districts to negotiate salaries below the salary schedule when hiring retired teachers for the 2022-23 school year. **PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** AMEND proviso to update the school year reference.
 - **1.83.** (SDE: Retired Teacher Salary Negotiation) With funds appropriated for State Aid to Classrooms, when hiring retired teachers for the 2022-23 2023-24 school year, school districts uniformly may negotiate salaries below the school district salary schedule.
- **1.85 AMEND** (SDE: Magnet School Athletics) Allows students from magnet schools that share a physical campus to participate in a sport not offered at their school of enrollment. Directs that the athletic competition classification cannot be modified. Prohibits a school from expending funds for membership dues to an organization that prevents a student from playing or changes the classification as a result of this provision.
 - **PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** AMEND proviso to direct any public magnet school which shares a physical campus with another public magnet school to allow any student to participate in a sport not offered at the student's school of enrollment. Adds "determining' and "competition status, or eligibility." Adds that competition status or eligibility also shall not be subjected to a change as a result of compliance with this provision. Deletes the prohibition on expending funds to an organization that prevents a student from playing athletics or changes a school's athletic classification or status. Adds a prohibition on expending funds to an organization that changes or alters athletic classification, eligibility, or competition status as a result of compliance with this provision or to any organization that refuses a student's participation.
 - **1.85.** (SDE: Magnet School Athletics) From funds authorized or appropriated <u>in the current fiscal year</u>, a <u>any</u> public magnet school that <u>which</u> shares a physical campus with another public magnet school must <u>shall</u> allow any student enrolled at a school on that physical campus to participate in an athletic sport not offered at the <u>school in which the student is enrolled</u>, <u>student's school of enrollment</u>, provided the student meets all age and academic requirements for participation. For the purposes of <u>determining</u> athletic <u>competition</u> classification, <u>competition status</u>, <u>or eligibility</u>, schools with students participating pursuant to this provision must <u>shall</u> not have their school enrollments joined or modified due to compliance with this provision, nor shall any school <u>or student</u> be subjected to a change in athletic competition classification as a result of compliance competition status, or eligibility as a result of compliance with this provision. The <u>Department of Education</u>, all public schools and, <u>or</u> all public school districts <u>in this State</u>, receiving <u>or expending</u> funds authorized or appropriated <u>in the current fiscal year</u> are prohibited from expending any funds to pay membership dues or other funds to any organization that prevents a student from playing sub-varsity or varsity athletics or changes or alters a school's

athletic competition classification or competition status as a result of any school or school district's compliance with this provision changes or alters a school's or student's athletic classification, eligibility, or competition status as a result of any student, school, or school district's compliance with this provision, or to any organization that refuses to allow, accept, or approve participation pursuant to the terms of this provision. This provision shall not limit the ability of any magnet school student, provided the student meets all age and eligibility requirements, to otherwise elect to participate in sub-varsity or varsity athletics at the student's zoned or resident school.

- **DELETE** (SDE: Graduation Requirements) Directs that SDE promulgate regulations to update current graduation requirements to include a half credit in personal finance. Requires the regulation to be submitted to the State Board of Education by September 30th.
 - PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DELETE proviso.
 - **1.86.** (SDE: Graduation Requirements) Of the funds appropriated or authorized herein, and pursuant to Section 59-39-100 of the 1976 Code, the Department of Education, through the State Board of Education, is directed to promulgate regulations to update the current graduation requirements to include within the existing credits a required half credit in personal finance. The regulation shall be submitted to the State Board of Education for first reading by September 30th.
- **1.88 AMEND** (SDE: READY Program) Requires funds for the READY program to be awarded by the SC First Steps to School Readiness Board of Trustees to First Steps local partnerships through a competitive and targeted grants process. Provides for the requirements of the grant awards. Directs that no more than 10% of the funds appropriated may be distributed to any one county, and no more than 3% may be retained by the Office of First Steps. Requires an annual report to be provided to the General Assembly and the Governor by June 30, 2023.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to update the due date of the report.

- **1.88.** (SDE: READY Program) Funds for the Resources for Early Acceleration and Development in Youth (READY) program must be awarded by the South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness Board of Trustees to First Steps local partnerships through a competitive and targeted grants process. Grant awards must prioritize evidenced-based programs for children from birth through age three who live in rural communities and in communities where kindergarten readiness scores are consistently below the state average. Of the funds appropriated, no more than ten percent may be distributed to any one county, and no more than three percent may be retained by the Office of First Steps for administering, monitoring, and evaluating the program. An annual report on the state's investment in early learning and development must be provided by the Office of First Steps to the General Assembly and the Governor by June 30, 2023 December 1st of the current fiscal year.
- **1.92 AMEND** (SDE: Base Student Cost/EFA) Directs that in FY 2022-23, references to Base Student Cost and EFA for reimbursement purposes shall have the same meaning in the previous fiscal year. Directs that references to Base Student Cost and EFA for withholding purposes means a State Aid to Classroom withholding. Directs SDE to make budget recommendations for changes to Base Student Cost or EFA references in the act.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to change "Fiscal Year 2022-23" to "the current fiscal year." Delete the directive for SDE to make budget recommendations for changes to Base Student Cost or EFA references in the act.

1.92. (SDE: Base Student Cost/EFA) For Fiscal Year 2022-23 the current fiscal year, references to Base Student Cost and EFA for reimbursement purposes for other entities shall have the same meaning as in the previous fiscal year.

For Fiscal Year 2022-23 *the current fiscal year*, references to Base Student Cost and EFA for withholding purposes shall mean a withholding of State Aid to Classroom.

From funds appropriated to the Department of Education, the department will make recommendations in their annual budget request for any changes to Base Student Cost or EFA references in the annual appropriations act.

DELETE (SDE: Educational Services for Children With Disabilities Report) Directs the department to provide certain data to specific committees in order to determine whether educational services are being delivered effectively and efficiently to children with disabilities by public schools and submit to the Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children and to the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. Requires the department to report on specific information and indicators and submit required reports by August 1, 2022 to the joint committee. Directs the joint committee to submit its findings and a work plan to assess and develop recommendations to the Governor, the General Assembly, SDE, and the State Board of Education by November 1, 2022.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DELETE proviso.

(SDE: Educational Services for Children with Disabilities Report) In order to determine whether educational services provided to students with disabilities are delivered effectively and efficiently and whether services or funding should be reformed, the Department of Education shall provide a report to the Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children and to the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office on targets identified from the Annual Performance Report on the most recent State Performance Plan submitted as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2004, Section 616 and Section 619 to include all Indicators 1-16 (Indicator 1-Graduation; Indicator 2-Drop-out; Indicator 3-Achievement; Indicator 4 Significant Discrepancy (Suspension); Indicator 5 School aged Least Restrictive Environment: Indicator 6 Preschool Least Restrictive Environment: Indicator 7 Preschool Outcomes; Indicator 8 Parent Involvement; Indicator 9 Disproportionate Representation (All Special Education); Indicator 10 Disproportionate Representation (Selected Categories); Indicator 11-60-Day Evaluation Timeline; Indicator 12-Part C to B Transition; Indicator 13 Transition Components; Indicator 14 Post Secondary Outcomes; Indicator 15 Mediations; and Indicator 16 Due Process Complaints) and Tables 1-5 (Table 1-Child Count; Table 2-Personnel; Table 3-Placement; Table 4-Exiting; and Table 5-Discipline) required under these sections that have not been met by a school district.

The department shall submit the required reports to the Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children committee on or before August 1, 2022. The Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children is directed to report its finding and a work plan to assess and develop recommendations concerning service delivery to students with disabilities to the Governor, the General Assembly, the Department of Education, and the State Board of Education by November 1, 2022.

1.95 DELETE (SDE: Teacher Recruitment and Retention) Directs the department establish a task force to examine and propose revisions to improve teacher recruitment, retention, and advancement. Provides composition of and guidelines for the task force. Directs the task force

to submit recommendations for reform to the Governor, the Speaker of the House, and the President of the Senate no later than May 31, 2023.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DELETE proviso.

- **1.95.** (SDE: Teacher Recruitment and Retention) (A) The Department of Education shall convene a task force to examine and propose necessary revisions for improving teacher recruitment, retention, and advancement.
- (B) The task force shall be comprised of the following individuals who each should have background and expertise in education:
 - (1) one member appointed by the Governor; who shall serve as Chair of the task force;
 - (2) the State Superintendent of Education or his designee,
- (3) one member of the South Carolina House of Representatives appointed by the Chair of the House of Representatives Education and Public Works Committee;
- (4) one member of the South Carolina Senate appointed by the Chair of the Senate Education Committee;
- (5) one member appointed by the Chair of the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee;
 - (6) one member appointed by the Chair of the Senate Finance Committee;
- (7) one member appointed by the Chair of the Board of the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office:
- (8) one member appointed by the Governor upon recommendation of the South Carolina Association of School Administrators;
- (9) one member appointed by the Governor upon recommendation of the South Carolina School Boards Association;
- (10) two members appointed by the Commission of Higher Education. Both appointments shall be employed as a Dean or Interim Dean of a College of Education at an institution of higher learning. One appointee shall be from a public institution, and one shall be from a private institution;
 - (11) the current South Carolina State Teacher of the Year;
- (12) three current classroom teachers, with at least one representative from each of the groups listed below, with direct instructional responsibilities, and at least one of which is employed at a Title I school, to be appointed by the Superintendent of Education upon the recommendation of the:
 - (a) Palmetto State Teachers Association;
 - (b) South Carolina Education Association; and
 - (c) South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators;
- (13) a current participant in the Teaching Fellows program appointed by the Center for Educator Recruitment and Retention; and
- (14) a representative from SC TEACHER appointed by the Dean of the College of Education of the University of South Carolina.
- (C) Members of the task force shall receive no compensation but may receive per diem and mileage from the South Carolina Department of Education as provided for boards and commissions.
- (D) In examining necessary revisions and improvements to the education profession, the task force must consider factors including:
- (1) public input gathered through meaningful consultation with teachers, principals, district officials, education preparation programs including both alternative and traditional higher education providers, and members of the public, including conducting hearings to gather public input;

- (2) research on how teacher salary structures can:
 - (a) improve teacher recruitment and retention;
- (b) incentivize methods used within the teaching profession which have an evidence based impact on student achievement; and
 - (c) address staffing shortages in critical needs geographic and content areas;
- (3) assistance from the Southern Region Education Board, Education Commission of the States, the National Conference of State Legislatures, and the National Center on Education and the Economy regarding educator recruitment, retention, and advancement from high performing jurisdictions; and
- (4) information provided from the Working Conditions Survey administered by SC TEACHER.
- (E) The task force must submit recommendations for potential reforms to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate by no later than May 31, 2023. Recommendations shall include, but not be limited to, the following areas:
 - (1) increasing recruitment to the teaching profession;
 - (2) improving teacher preparation;
 - (3) transforming compensation for teachers;
 - (4) enhancing the effectiveness of teacher evaluation;
 - (5) improving working conditions for all teachers; and
- (6) identifying best practices from other jurisdictions and designing them for South Carolina.
- **1.96 AMEND** (SDE: Competency-Based Education) Allows districts to submit a waiver application to the department when seeking to implement competency-based education. Defines competency-based education. Directs the department to create evaluation criteria and guidelines. Directs a participating school to submit data for a biennial review on a form developed by the department. Requires a report summarizing the reviews to be distributed to the Governor and member of the General Assembly no later than June 30, 2023.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to update reporting date.

- **1.96.** (SDE: Competency-Based Education) (A) In the current fiscal year, districts seeking to implement competency-based education may submit a waiver application to the State Board of Education in a format developed by the State Department of Education. For purposes of this proviso, competency-based education refers to a comprehensive learning approach for a student to master competencies and related standards along a personalized, self-paced, and flexible pathway. As part of the waiver application, districts may include in-person instruction, virtual instruction, self-guided learning, and experiential learning through approved off-campus educational opportunities in calculating instructional hours and may offer the required instructional days at any time during the school year, consistent with the law.
- (B) Of the funds appropriated to the Department, the State Department of Education shall create evaluation criteria and guidelines for schools that are operating under a waiver pursuant to this proviso. A participating school shall submit required data for a biennial cyclical review on a form developed by the department. A report summarizing the reviews including the waivers requested and how they hindered implementation must be distributed to the Governor and members of the General Assembly no later than June 30, 2023 2024.
- **1.fstp** ADD (SDE: First Steps Transfer Plan) PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: ADD new proviso to direct the Office of First Steps to work with

DOA and EBO, in consultation with SDE, to develop a plan to operate independently from SDE. Includes plan requirements and directs that a report be submitted to the Chairmen of Senate Finance and House Ways and Means and the Governor by 12/1/23. Requested by the Office of First Steps.

1.fstp. (SDE: First Steps Transfer Plan) The Office of First Steps shall work with the Department of Administration, Executive Budget Office, in consultation with the Department of Education, to develop a plan to operate independently from the Department of Education. The plan should include, but is not limited to, proposed program structure, the amount of personal services, operating expenses, employer contributions funding which shall be transferred from the Department of Education, and personnel required to perform human resource and accounting functions. A report shall be submitted to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Governor by December 1, 2023.

1.cra ADD (SDE: Career Readiness Assessments) **PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** ADD new proviso to direct the EOC and State Board of Education to create a waiver by 7/1/23 for districts and high schools to request an exemption from reporting student performance on the career readiness assessment for the 2022-2023 school year if the student is taking the assessment a second time and when it is different from the assessment taken in 11th grade.

1.cra. (SDE: Career Readiness Assessments) For the current fiscal year, the Education Oversight Committee and the State Board of Education are directed to create a waiver form by which school districts and high schools may request an exemption from reporting student performance on the career readiness assessment for the 2022-23 school year only for students who are taking the career readiness assessment for the second time and when the career readiness assessment is different from the career readiness assessment the student took in 11th grade. The exemption form must be available for schools no later than July 31, 2023.

1.aepo ADD (SDE: Alternative Education Programs Options) **PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** ADD new proviso to direct SDE to create, publish, and provide to all public schools a list of alternative education programs at various institutions to students who are not on track for on-time graduation or who are at risk of dropping out of school Directs that school counselors should also provide student information those institutions unless the student has opted out pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Directs the department to develop an opt-out form for parents or students eighteen or older and make it available on its website.

1.aepo. (SDE: Alternative Education Programs Options) The State Department of Education shall create, publish, and provide to all public schools in the State a list of alternative education programs that can award a high school degree or high school equivalency credential. The list must include, but not be limited to, the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School and the South Carolina Youth Challenge Academy. As part of each student's annual review of his Individualized Graduation Plan, school counselors shall distribute information provided by the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School, the South Carolina Youth Challenge Academy, and any other alternative education program to students who are not on track for on-time graduation or who otherwise are at risk of dropping out of school. School counselors shall provide those institutions the names and addresses of all students who are not on track for on-time graduation or who otherwise at risk of dropping out of school, except for students who have opted out of disclosure

of directory information under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. Section 1232g. Parents or students age eighteen or older may complete a form to opt the student out of the disclosure of student contact information with these institutions. The department shall develop this opt-out and each district shall make the form available on its website.

SECTION 1A - H630 - DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION-EIA

1A.7 AMEND (SDE-EIA: Disbursement/Other Entities) Directs a quarterly disbursement by the Department of Revenue directly to other state agencies referenced in the appropriations act with four exceptions listed that receive their full appropriations at the start of the fiscal year. Grants conforming funding authority to the Executive Budget Office.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to delete the directive that DOR provide first quarter appropriation of funding for the Charter School District to the SDE.

- 1A.7. (SDE-EIA: Disbursements/Other Entities) Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 2-7-66 and 11-3-50, South Carolina Code of Laws, it is the intent of the General Assembly that funds appropriated in Part IA, Section 1, VIII.F. Other State Agencies and Entities shall be disbursed on a quarterly basis by the Department of Revenue directly to the state agencies and entities referenced except for the Teacher Loan Program, Centers of Excellence, the Education Oversight Committee and School Technology, which shall receive their full appropriation at the start of the fiscal year from available revenue. The Executive Budget Office is authorized to make necessary appropriation reductions in Part IA, Section 1, VIII.F. to prevent duplicate appropriations. If the Education Improvement Act appropriations in the agency and entity respective sections of the General Appropriations Act at the start of the fiscal year do not agree with the appropriations in Part IA, Section 1, VIII.F. Other State Agencies and Entities, the "other funds" appropriations in the respective agency and entity sections of the General Appropriations Act will be adjusted by the Executive Budget Office to conform to the appropriations in Part IA, Section 1, VIII.F. Other State Agencies and Entities. Further, the Department of Revenue is directed to provide the full appropriation of the funding appropriated in Part IA, Section 1, VIII.C.2. Teacher Supplies to the Department of Education at the start of the fiscal year from available revenue. The Department of Revenue is also directed to provide the first quarter appropriation of the funding appropriated in Part IA, Section 1, VIII.H. Charter School District to the Department of Education at the start of the fiscal year from available revenue.
- **1A.13 AMEND** (SDE-EIA: School Districts and Special Schools Flexibility) Grants maximum transferability and expenditure of appropriated State funds for operations of school districts and special schools within certain guidelines; prohibits school districts from transferring specific funds allocated for certain purposes; and suspends specific requirements and assessments. Requires school districts to report the student teacher ratio for every classroom to the department at the 45 and 135 day mark and directs the department to report this information to the General Assembly. *Companion General Education proviso is 1.21*.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to change the reference from the "2022-2023" school year to the "current" school year.

1A.13. (SDE-EIA: School Districts and Special Schools Flexibility) All school districts and special schools of this State may transfer and expend funds among appropriated state general fund revenues, Education Improvement Act funds, and Education Lottery Act funds, and funds

received from the Children's Education Endowment Fund for school facilities and fixed equipment assistance, to ensure the delivery of academic and arts instruction to students. However, a school district may not transfer funds allocated specifically for state level maintenance of effort requirements under IDEA, funds allocated specifically for state level maintenance of effort requirement for federal program, funds provided for the Education and Economic Development Act, funds provided for Career and Technology Education, nor funds required for debt service or bonded indebtedness. All school districts must report the student teacher ratio for every classroom to the Department of Education at the forty-fifth and the one hundred and thirty-fifth day mark. The department shall report this information to the General Assembly for the 2022 2023 current school year.

In order for a school district to take advantage of the flexibility provisions, at least seventy-five percent of the school district's per pupil expenditures must be utilized within the In\$ite categories of instruction, instructional support, and only transportation, food service, and safety within non-instruction pupil services. No portion of the seventy-five percent may be used for facilities, business services, debt service, capital outlay, program management, and leadership services, as defined by In\$ite. The school district shall report to the Department of Education the actual percentage of its per pupil expenditures used for classroom instruction, instructional support, and transportation, food service, and safety within non-instruction pupil services for the current school year ending June thirtieth. Salaries of on-site principals must be included in the calculation of the district's per pupil expenditures.

"In\$ite" means the financial analysis model for education programs utilized by the Department of Education.

School districts are encouraged to reduce expenditures by means, including, but not limited to, limiting the number of low enrollment courses, reducing travel for the staff and the school district's board, reducing and limiting activities requiring dues and memberships, reducing transportation costs for extracurricular and academic competitions, restructuring administrative staffing, and expanding virtual instruction.

School districts and special schools may carry forward unexpended funds from the prior fiscal year into the current fiscal year.

Prior to implementing the flexibility authorized herein, school districts must provide to Public Charter Schools the per pupil allocation due to them for each categorical program.

Quarterly throughout the current fiscal year, the chairman of each school district's board and the superintendent of each school district must certify where non-instructional or nonessential programs have been suspended and the specific flexibility actions taken. The certification must be in writing, signed by the chairman and the superintendent, delivered electronically to the State Superintendent of Education, and an electronic copy forwarded to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee, the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee. Additionally, the certification must be presented publicly at a regularly called school board meeting, and the certification must be conspicuously posted on the internet website maintained by the school district.

For the current fiscal year, Section 59-21-1030 is suspended. The foreign language program assessment, and the physical education assessment must be suspended. School districts and the Department of Education are granted permission to purchase the most economical type of bus fuel.

For the current fiscal year, savings generated from the suspension of the assessments enumerated above must be allocated to school districts based on weighted pupil units.

School districts must maintain a transaction register that includes a complete record of all funds expended over one hundred dollars, from whatever source, for whatever purpose. The

register must be prominently posted on the district's internet website and made available for public viewing and downloading. The register must include for each expenditure:

- (i) the transaction amount;
- (ii) the name of the payee; and
- (iii) a statement providing a detailed description of the expenditure.

The register must not include an entry for salary, wages, or other compensation paid to individual employees. The register must not include any information that can be used to identify an individual employee. The register must be accompanied by a complete explanation of any codes or acronyms used to identify a payee or an expenditure. The register must be searchable and updated at least once a month.

Each school district must also maintain on its internet website a copy of each monthly statement for all of the credit cards maintained by the entity, including credit cards issued to its officers or employees for official use. The credit card number on each statement must be redacted prior to posting on the internet website. Each credit card statement must be posted not later than the thirtieth day after the first date that any portion of the balance due as shown on the statement is paid.

The Comptroller General must establish and maintain a website to contain the information required by this section from a school district that does not maintain its own internet website. The internet website must be organized so that the public can differentiate between the school districts and search for the information they are seeking.

The provisions contained herein do not amend, suspend, supersede, replace, revoke, restrict, or otherwise affect Chapter 4, Title 30 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. Nothing in this proviso shall be interpreted as prohibiting the State Board of Education to exercise its authority to grant waivers under Regulation 43-261.

1A.19 AMEND (SDE-EIA: Accountability Program Implementation) Authorizes the EOC to carry forward unexpended EAA administrative funds and non-awarded Community Block Grants for Education Pilot Program funds and to use these funds for an independent common evaluation of each awarded grant.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to delete the carry forward for the EIA SC Community Block Grants for Education Pilot programs. Directs that the carry forward now be used for the Education Data Dashboard funds.

- **1A.19.** (SDE-EIA: Accountability Program Implementation) To support implementation of the accountability program, the Education Oversight Committee may carry forward unexpended Education Accountability Act funds authorized specifically for the administration of the Education Oversight Committee. For the current fiscal year the Education Oversight Committee may carry forward prior year EIA South Carolina Community Block Grants for Education Pilot Program funds not awarded by the grant committee. These funds must be used for an independent common evaluation of each awarded grant to ensure high quality programs that maximize a return on the state's investment Education Data Dashboard funds.
- **1A.31 AMEND** (SDE: Teacher Salaries/SE Average) States that the projected Southeastern average teacher salary is projected to be \$55,898. Requires a local district board of trustees to provide a step increase for all eligible certified teachers. Requires districts to use the district salary schedule used in the prior fiscal year as the basis for providing the increase. Suspends the requirement that districts maintain local salary supplements per teacher no less than their prior fiscal year. *Companion to General Education proviso 1.71*.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to update projected teacher salary and fiscal year.

1A.31. (SDE-EIA: Teacher Salaries/SE Average) The projected Southeastern average teacher salary shall be the average of the average teachers' salaries of the southeastern states as projected by the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. For the current school year, the Southeastern average teacher salary is projected to be \$55,898 \$58,048. The General Assembly remains desirous of raising the average teacher salary in South Carolina through incremental increases over the next few years so as to make such equivalent to the national average teacher salary.

Additionally, for the current fiscal year, a local school district board of trustees must increase the salary compensation for all eligible certified teachers employed by the district by no less than one year of experience credit using at a minimum the district salary schedule utilized the prior fiscal year as the basis for providing the step. Application of this provision must be applied uniformly for all eligible certified teachers. For Fiscal Year 2022-23 2023-24, the requirement that school districts maintain local salary supplements per teacher no less than their prior fiscal year level is suspended.

For purposes of this provision, teachers shall be defined by the Department of Education using the Professional Certified Staff (PCS) System.

1A.41 AMEND (SDE-EIA: EOC-South Carolina Autism Society) Directs that \$500,000 of the EIA funds appropriated for Partnerships, Education Oversight Committee (A85) be transferred quarterly from the EOC to the South Carolina Autism Society for the Autism Parent-School Partnership Program. Requires the society, on or before August 1, 2022, to provide an audit of the society's books from the previous fiscal year to the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees. Directs that the society provide an updated audit to the Chairmen on or before June 30, 2023.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to update calendar year references.

1A.41. (SDE-EIA: EOC-South Carolina Autism Society) Of the funds appropriated in Section 1A, VIII.F. Partnerships, Education Oversight Committee (A85), \$500,000 must be transferred in quarterly installments from the Education Oversight Committee to the South Carolina Autism Society for the Autism Parent-School Partnership Program. No more than ten percent of these funds may be used for central office related administrative purposes, with the remaining funds used to directly provide services through the Parent-School Partnership Program.

On a quarterly basis, the South Carolina Autism Society shall submit to the Chairmen of the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee a comprehensive report concerning the society's finances. The report must include, but is not limited to:

- (1) All income derived during the quarter from any source;
- (2) An itemized list of all expenditures for the quarter, including the amount of each expenditure;
- (3) A list of employees, independent contractors hired by the society, and any other person or entity that provides goods or services to the society, including the amount paid to each; and
- (4) Any other such information that aids in fully understanding the fiscal health of the society.

On or before August 1, 2022 2023, the society shall provide the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee an audit of the society's books from the society's previous fiscal year. On or before June 30, 2023 2024, the

society shall provide an updated audit to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

1A.59 AMEND (SDE-EIA: Teacher Recruitment Program) Provides for the allocation of \$750,000 of Rural Teacher Recruitment funds to USC's College of Education (COE) to develop and implement a new teacher recruitment pilot program to be administered by the COE in partnership with the Center for Teaching Quality.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to delete "of Fiscal Year 2022-23" and insert "the current fiscal year."

1A.59. (SDE-EIA: Teacher Recruitment Program) On or before September 30th of Fiscal Year 2022 23 the current fiscal year, following the development of accountability metrics, \$750,000 of the funds appropriated in this act to the Department of Education for "Rural Teacher Recruitment" shall be allocated to the University of South Carolina's College of Education (COE) for the development and implementation of a new teacher recruitment pilot program to be administered by the COE in partnership with the Center for Teaching Quality (CTQ). The purpose of the pilot program shall be the employment of innovative and cost-effective teacher recruitment strategies, customized training for new teachers, and dedicated, ongoing mentoring support. The pilot program shall compliment and/or enhance the state's ongoing rural teacher recruitment initiatives such as those supported pursuant to Proviso 1A.45 of this act. At minimum, the pilot program must assist no fewer than ten school districts to include at least four districts along the 1-95 corridor and serve no fewer than 250 teacher candidates. The pilot program shall stipulate reasonable fees for participating candidates and districts and districts shall agree to release time for required on site mentors who shall be experienced, practicing teachers within the district for the purposes of co-teaching with and supporting candidates' development. Within participating districts, the pilot program shall emphasize high-need schools and within selected schools, the emphasis shall be on developing teacher candidates teaching in high-need subject areas to include, but not be limited to, STEM and special education with all candidates receiving training in literacy skills. The pilot program design shall be based on emerging empirical evidence of effective teacher education as well as best practices from recent innovations in university-based and alternative certification and residency programs for the dual purpose of recruiting needed candidates with equal focus on retaining accomplished, experienced teachers utilizing, in part, a model which contains intensive mentoring and support for candidate teachers. Before any funds are disbursed to the COE, the COE and CTQ shall develop accountability metrics for the pilot program that must include, at minimum, employment outcome indicators such as job placement and retention statistics as well as survey instrumentation in order to measure candidate, mentor, and principal satisfaction with the pilot program. No later than June 30th, program data and evidence collected as a result of this accountability requirement must be shared in report form with the Department of Education, the Education Oversight Committee, the South Carolina Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement, the Commission on Higher Education, the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee, the Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee, the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee and the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

1A.60 AMEND (SDE-EIA: Bridge Program) Directs that \$1,400,000 of Rural Teacher Recruitment funds be transferred to SC State University to implement and enhance a BRIDGE program to recruit minority high school students along the I-95 corridor into the teaching profession. Directs SC State to use \$400,000 of these funds to partner with one or more higher education institutions to establish a similar bridge program.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND proviso to update the fiscal year reference.

1A.60. (SDE: Bridge Program) Of the funds appropriated for "Rural Teacher Recruitment" in Fiscal Year 2022-23 2023-24, \$1,400,000 shall be transferred to South Carolina State University for the implementation and enhancement of a BRIDGE program to recruit minority high school students along the I-95 corridor into the teaching profession by offering them, while still in high school, access to counseling, mentoring, on campus summer enrichment programs, and opportunities for dual enrollment credits at South Carolina State University for the purpose of preparing these students to major in education and to become future teachers along the I-95 corridor. South Carolina State University must utilize \$400,000 of these funds to partner with one or more institutions of higher education to establish a similar bridge program.

SECTION 7 - L120 - GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR AGRICULTURE AT JOHN DE LA HOWE

7.1 DELETE (JDLHS: Status Offender Carry Forward) Allows unexpended status offender funds distributed to the school from the Department of Education to be carried forward and used for the same purpose.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DELETE proviso. Requested by the Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe.

- **7.1.** (JDLHS: Status Offender Carry Forward) Unexpended status offender funds distributed to the Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe from the Department of Education may be carried forward and used for the same purpose.
- **7.3 DELETE** (JDLHS: Deferred Salaries Carried Forward) Authorizes the amount of deferred salaries and employer contributions earned in the prior fiscal year for non-twelve month employees to be carried forward. Directs that these funds shall not be included as part of any other authorized carry forward amount.

PROVISO SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DELETE proviso. Requested by the Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe.

7.3. (JDLHS: Deferred Salaries Carried Forward) The Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe is authorized to carry forward into the current fiscal year the amount of deferred salaries and employer contributions earned in the prior fiscal year for non-twelve month employees. These deferred funds are not to be included or part of any other authorized carry forward amount.