

ACTION SHEET

**JOINT MEETING
OF THE
HOUSE AND SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION**

ADEQUACY

Wednesday, February 01, 2017

03:00 P.M.

**Room 151, State Capitol
Little Rock, Arkansas**

Representative Bruce Cozart, the Chair of the House Interim Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION IN ATTENDANCE: Senator Jane English, Chair; Senator Joyce Elliott, Vice Chair; Senator Linda Chesterfield; Senator Bart Hester; Senator Blake Johnson; and Senator Uvalde Lindsey.

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION IN ATTENDANCE: Representative Bruce Cozart, Chair; Representative Charlotte V. Douglas, Vice Chair; Representative Sonia Eubanks Barker; Representative Rick Beck; Representative Frances Cavanaugh; Representative Jana Della Rosa; Representative Jon S. Eubanks; Representative Mickey Gates; Representative Mark Lowery; Representative Stephen Meeks; Representative Dan Sullivan; and Representative DeAnn Vaught.

Remarks by the Chair

Representative Cozart requested that members present at the meeting introduce themselves.

Discussion of 2016 House and Senate Adequacy Reports

Representative Cozart stated that the purpose of the meeting is to adopt supplementary information for the 2016 Adequacy Report.

Contributor to the Discussion:

Mr. Richard Wilson, Assistant Director, Research Services, Bureau of Legislative Research

Issues Included in the Discussion:

- clarification of the motion,
- clarification of the numbers for the Academic Facilities Partnership Program,
- effect of proposed legislation changing the formula for the wealth index on the funding for the Academic Facilities Partnership Program, and
- making sure language in the Adequacy Report corresponds to that on which a vote was taken.

Relevant Action:

The Honorable Jon S. Eubanks, State Representative, District 74, was recognized, and made a motion to adopt the Supplement to the Final Report on the Legislative Hearings for the 2016 Adequacy Study:

1. Change the definition of adequacy.

The definition the General Assembly uses for educational adequacy should be amended to include the following underlined language:

1. The standards included in the state's curriculum frameworks, which define what all Arkansas students are to be taught, including specific grade level curriculum, a mandatory thirty-eight (38) Carnegie units defined by the Arkansas Standards of Accreditation to be taught at the high school level, and opportunities for students to develop career readiness skills;
2. The standards included in the state's testing system. The goal is to have all, or all but the most severely disabled, students perform at or above proficiency on these tests; and
3. Sufficient funding to provide adequate resources as identified by the General Assembly.

2. Provide additional funding for the Academic Facilities Partnership Program.

The General Assembly should provide up to \$100 million in new state funding for the Academic Facilities Partnership Program for the biennium. This funding should be in addition to the proposed \$41.8 million in General Revenue for the Partnership Program each year of the biennium and in addition to any transferred savings the Partnership Program receives from the Bonded Debt Assistance program.

3. Set aside a portion of the Professional Development funding for professional learning communities.

Increase the Professional Development state categorical funding rate from \$32.40 per student to \$41 per student in FY18 and \$50 per student in FY19, and set aside the increased amount to be used exclusively for professional learning communities.

The Honorable Uvalde Lindsey, State Senator, District 4, was recognized, and seconded the motion.

Pursuant to the motion by Representative Eubanks, and without objection, the motion was carried.

Handouts:

Subchapter 21 – Continuing Adequacy Evaluation Act of 2004
Supplement to the Final Report on the Legislative Hearings for the 2016 Adequacy Study

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 03:05 p.m.