



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



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PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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TO: State Board of Education
FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairperson 
SUBJECT: State and Federal Legislative Update

STATE

Michigan Department of Education Budget – House Bill 4438, Representative Terry Brown (D-Pigeon)

The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on K-12 continues working on the budget. At this time, the Governor, Senate Leadership, and House Leadership are deliberating on target setting based on the May Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference. The Senate Subcommittee expects to report the budget in the next few weeks.

Supplemental of Stimulus Funds for Federal Education Technology – House Bill 4308, Representative George Cushingberry (D-Detroit)

This bill is the next in a series of supplemental appropriations bills related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The educational related piece in this bill is \$24.5 million for education technology. This funding is distributed 50 per cent by formula and 50 per cent through competitive grants for Enhancing Education Through Technology, a program to provide teachers with real-time access to student data at the classroom level to inform instructional decisions. The grant will also provide professional development for the use of education technology that will give teachers the tools they need to individualize instruction. This bill passed both chambers and was presented to the Governor for signature.

FEDERAL

The U.S. House Education and Labor Committee has been holding hearings on a variety of topics of importance to the new administration. These are all available in the committee's archived web streams. The most recent include:

- Testimony from U.S. Secretary Arne Duncan on President Obama's Education Agenda
- Building On What Works at Charter Schools (Scheduled for June 4th)
 - This hearing includes testimony from Michigan's own Jim Goenner, from Central Michigan University's authorizing office.
- America's Competitiveness through High School Reform
- Improving Child Nutrition Programs to Reduce Childhood Obesity

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It should also be noted that the Chairman of this Committee, Congressman Miller (California), recently applauded the work of states, the National Governors Association, and the Council of Chief State School Officers on building the process to develop common academic standards. Forty-nine states and territories have now signed on. Because of the work on the High School Curriculum Requirements and Content Standards by the State Board of Education, the Michigan Department of Education, the Legislature, and the Governor's office, Michigan is in a great position to contribute to those talks. A link to his comment follows:
<http://edlabor.house.gov/newsroom/2009/06/chairman-miller-applauds-state.shtml>.

U.S. Secretary Duncan will testify regarding the President's proposed Education budget for FY 2010 before the House and the Senate Appropriations Subcommittees with oversight of education on June 3, 2009.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these or other legislative issues, please contact Lisa Hansknecht, Legislative Director, at 517-335-4913.