

Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs
"Regionalization Plan" to Replace Part MM in LD 499

Initiative	Regionalization Plan	Vote
1. Planning Structure	Based on "Regional Planning Alliance" model: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning alliances based on 26 Career and Technical Education ("CTE") regions • A member appointed to represent each governing board of school administrative units and school unions in the region, each municipality in the region and 4 members of the general public 	12-0 7-5
2. Process to Plan for Collaboration and Consolidation	A deliberative process that permits communities to choose partners for collaboration/consolidation (over a two year period) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use "Regional Planning Alliance" concept with tasks, benchmarks and reporting deadlines 	11-1
3. Process to Plan for Collaboration and Consolidation	Adopt timelines reflecting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY08 planning and FY09 implementation for collaboration; • FY09 planning/FY10 potential implementation for consolidation; • Accelerated planning/implementation at any time (starting now) for those already collaborating and who want to start consolidation sooner than FY10 	12-0
4. Consolidation Plan Requirement for Certain School Units	Beginning in FY10, (and after FY09 planning), consolidation plans are required for school units with less than 1200 pupils (there are currently 236 school units with less than 1,200 pupils as reported Oct 2006) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exceptions shall be available for some school units (e.g., school units that are geographically isolated as determined by DOE review) 	12-0
5. Revisions to EPS Funding Formula	Beginning in FY10, relevant cost components in the EPS funding formula will be modified to reflect administrative and non-instructional costs of efficient, high-performing school units	7-4
6. Incentives for Consolidation	Incentives for consolidation may include, but are not limited to, school construction advantages, state subsidy as available, and other incentives as identified <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.7m in FY08 & FY09 for planning alliances • Education Committee will explore other incentives for consolidation, including reduced mill rate (for a limited number of years) and other possibilities 	11-1 12-0

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7. School Unit Budget Approval Process	Achieve "transparency in budgeting" by having each school unit align its budget to a common format containing the major "line items of EPS funding formula in the budget warrant prepared for local voters	12-1
8. Achieving the \$36.5m reduction to GPA Program in FY09	<p>Establish an adjustment in GPA program in FY09 to achieve the \$36.5m reductions via non-instructional savings, or any savings that were achieved through collaboration/consolidation initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a "non-lapsing" incentive fund for collaboration and consolidation by reallocating the \$3.98m in GPA funds in FY09 that were proposed to provide funding for school principals to this incentive fund 	9-3
	Minority Reports on Initiative #8	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sen. Mills: (please see attached report titled "An Incentive Plan for Consolidation") • Rep. Farrington: Same plan structure, but does not assume achievement of the level of savings in FY09 through the method delineated • Rep. Finch: No specifics at this time, however, narrowing savings to non-instructional savings is a step towards "targeted funds" which I do not like • Rep. Edgecomb: Leave in \$3.98m funding for principals and strike out non-instructional savings 	