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Date: 9/28/2015 6:42:50 PM
Subject: RE: Leg Update
Attachments: Staff Recommendations for the EPRRTF FINAL.pm.pdf

Legislative Notes:

The House Education Policy Review and Reform Task Force:

Established by the Speaker in January 2015

Chairman: Rep. Allison

17 committee members

5 subcommittees (listed below)

The full committee has met 4 times / subcommittees have met 2+ times

The Task Force expects to have a report to the Speaker with a comprehensive list of recommendations by the end of October/early November.

Attached is a DRAFT of proposed recommendations that have been presented to the Task Force.

The task force 5 subcommittees:

1. Transportation and Facilities Infrastructure
2. Accountability (Academic and Financial), Continuous Improvement, and Leadership (District, School, and Community)
3. Educator Recruitment, Retention, Effectiveness and Professional Development
4. College and Career Pathways of High Quality Learning Opportunities in Elementary, Middle, and High Schools
5. High Quality Early Childhood Education and Family Engagement

Facebook post by Speaker Lucas – on September 25, 2015 regarding the Supreme Court order:

“The House Education Policy Review and Reform task force has been working diligently since January on a proposal to reform South Carolina's education system. Yesterday's surprise and dilatory court order comes nine months after the House began an open dialogue with education experts, including representatives from the plaintiff's districts in the Abbeville case. We sought - and were denied - additional guidance from the Court by requesting a rehearing to assist with a path forward. Instead of aiding the legislative branch with this tremendous task, the Court is practicing judicial overreach and seeking to insert itself into the law-making process by prospectively approving our state's education policy.”

The House Education Policy Review and Reform Task Force Accountability, Continuous Improvement, and Leadership Subcommittee met today to hear testimony from Josh Bell with Teach for America and Sheila Quinn with the State Department of Education about proposed recommendations for the Abbeville Plaintiff Districts. Points discussed with the subcommittee:

The average student in South Carolina has \$29,000 in student debt, 10th highest in the country.

The Rise SC Campaign is a homegrown recruitment initiative that is aimed at keeping educators in our state after graduation. In an effort to promote this initiative, Teach for America has partnered with the Original Six Foundation to hold a South Carolina Leaders for Education Summit on October 24 focused on professional development and teacher recruitment for rural counties.

Rep. Bingham requested that the State Department of Education compile a list of all relevant activities and what has been done by the department and EOC to address the concerns of the Supreme Court and Plaintiff Districts since 2012.