

From: Pitts, Ted
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Date: 12/31/2013 11:56:51 AM
Subject: FW: 2014 Agenda meeting

Review and add detail were needed

2014 Agenda Meeting

Need to Finish

DOA: Conference Committee meets during the first week of session; deal likely.

Ethics- update. Outside groups have invited legislators to a press conference the first week of session to kick off Senate Ethics debate – scheduled for Jan 16 at 10:30 at Statehouse; Our office is working on whip counts for the Working Group Amendment. Sheheen plans to continue to say the WG Amendment is too weak (per LWV meeting with Whalen).

FOIA – probably should revisit next session.

ABF- update

Need to Deal With

CON – developing new proposal to amend Sen. Peeler’s bill (S. 568) pending on Senate Floor. (See CON Reform document for details.) Meeting with BCBS next Friday on a study they initiated at Tony’s request that will hopefully back up our proposal with data/facts. Asked TK and CBT to help us finalize our proposal by this Friday but we have an initial proposal.

Regulatory Review – Sent letters from NH to all Task Force members and Cabinet agencies explaining what our agencies have already implemented or will implement by policy or regulation. Letters were also sent to DHEC and LLR Boards asking them to approve Task Force regulatory recommendations and report back to us by Jan 31 on their decision. We are meeting with Sen. Davis and Rep. Bedingfield Jan 7 to ask them to sponsor the statutory reforms.

SNAP Waiver- status

Do We Need to Deal With?

DOT sunset: July 1, 2015

Budget

Infrastructure: Magic Chart to produce ~\$1B more for roads over the next decade (still scoring).

Income Tax Cuts/Reform: Collapsing the 6% bracket costs \$26.7M; paid for by making some of HHS’ new money non-recurring (phasing-out the large NR amount given by the General Assembly in FY 2013-14...our past treatment of cigarette taxes is a relevant precedent).

Education Initiative

Major Features (FIGURES NOT FINAL):

- Funding Formula Reform**-Transitioning to the Education Oversight Committee’s recommended funding model, which is a simpler and fairer plan that would now target money to districts with higher poverty levels, a greater prevalence of low-English proficiency students, and for the individualized needs of students failing to meet state standards, along with gifted/talented students and adult learners. Including Base Student Cost increase to \$2,120, the net increase is \$58M, recurring.
- Reading**- A reading coach in every elementary school. 100% state-funded for the 300 schools with the

greatest need. 50% state-funded in other schools, if they match and are willing to participate. Almost \$30M, recurring. Includes funding for teachers' reading-related professional development. Funds for reading camps would increase by more than 300%, going from \$1.5M to \$6.5M.

- Technology-** Using ¼ of the Capital Reserve Fund (\$29.3M) as the first stage in a multi-year commitment to improve K-12 technology. Funds would be used to improve connectivity (both from the world to a school and also wireless networks within a school) and for “1:1 computing” equipment such as laptops and tablets for students. Money would be targeted to higher-poverty districts, many of which are rural, and would be augmented by a \$12M (NR) allocation for digital instructional materials and \$4M (NR) for related teacher training.
- Charters-** Substantial increases for the Public Charter School District, both to accommodate the substantial enrollment increases that are expected and also to increase the per-student subsidy by about 12%. These schools would also gain greater access to facilities, thanks to the first-ever dollars (\$4M, NR) for the existing but previously unfunded Charter School Facility Revolving Loan Program.
- Improved accountability and coordination-** by allowing for an appointed, qualified Superintendent of Education (and by providing common leadership and back-office support for all pre-kindergarten programs within the Department of Education and under the guidance of a reinvigorated Early Childhood Advisory Council?).

Endorsements:

- SC: Teachers, administrators, charters, parents, past Superintendents, business community, EOC members, legislators, etc.
- National: Foundation for Excellence in Education (Jeb Bush), others?

Most key initiatives are budget-related, but we'll have our own permanent bill that contains substantial text from existing bills of Hayes, Owens, Peeler, and others. Lots of clean-up, too.

Roll Out:

- Venue(s), audience, deliverables/deadlines, schedule for the upcoming week...