

From: Godfrey, Rob
To: Soura, ChristianChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov
Baker, JoshJoshBaker@gov.sc.gov
Date: 6/11/2013 9:19:57 AM
Subject: Fw: Heads up on weekend story, request for comment from Haley

Suggested response?

From: Self, Jamie [mailto:jself@thestate.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2013 09:18 AM
To: Godfrey, Rob
Subject: Re: Heads up on weekend story, request for comment from Haley

Good morning, Rob.

I'm writing about this topic for tomorrow's paper. Here's the email I sent last week.

To add to what I sent previously, the pilot program would be funded through a proviso detailing how excess money should be spent, so there's a likelihood it may not get funded at all.

It's my understanding that while the state has data that tracks where dollars are going, it does not analyze district by district whether the money is being spent wisely. This program would aim to do that, according to the EOC.

I am interested in finding out what Gov. Haley thinks about the questions I asked in my previous email, especially since she raised the concern, in our interview earlier this year, that the state needs to find out whether dollars are being spent in the classroom and what successful schools are doing that others are not.

Best,

Jamie

On Wed, Jun 5, 2013 at 2:59 PM, Self, Jamie <jself@thestate.com> wrote:

Hi Rob,

I'm writing about a budget proviso that would allow the EOC to launch a pilot program evaluating school efficiency, looking at administrative costs and other non-instructional costs.

I understand this same proviso, 70.32, was in the budget last year, but Gov. Haley vetoed it (Vetoes 71 & 72) because Mick Zais opposed it, it would require an outside consultant to carry out and because, as the governor said in her veto message, any k-12 efficiency program should rest within the department of education.

My understanding is the GA overturned the veto, but the proviso wasn't funded due to funding shortfalls.

The proviso is back in the budget: 91.26.

It is my understanding that the pilot program would, at least for some school districts, evaluate whether districts are spending too much money on administration and other non-instructional costs.

The state currently has no way of evaluating whether schools are spending money wisely, according to the EOC.

Gov. Haley told me in our interview earlier this year that she wanted to take a close look at how public school money is being spent. Zais has said one problem with public education is the growth of administrative positions.

Are there any evaluations underway?

Does Gov. Haley plan on vetoing the pilot program again?

If so, does she have any concrete ideas for how to go about doing what she said needed to be done, determining how public school dollars are being spent?

Thanks,

Jamie

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