



Capital Office for Administrative, Accreditation & Legislative Services

March 26, 2015

TO: All FACCS Administrators

FROM: Dr. Howard G. Burke, FACCS Executive Director

RE: Quick Action Update

Today (Thursday March 26, 2015) HB 7017 on Early Learning & HB 7095 Personal Learning Savings Accounts have made it to the House Calendar on Second Reading and will be there for a while until companions begin to move. HB 477 expanding Background Screening requirements for virtual instructors & HB 747 revising the Bright Futures Program passed out of the House Education Committee to their next Committee assignment. HB 7057 relating to school administration & a variety of issues such as attendance, bullying, ethical requirements for public school officials and school leadership along with HB 7043 relating to standardized (uniform) student attire; HB 7037 broadening school choice & charter school facilities & efforts to enhance best practices through pilot programs; a principal pilot program in HB 357 & HB 665 addressing classroom caps approved in the 2002 constitutional referendum were taken up & each passed with limited amendments on the Special Order Calendar thus rolling each to Third Reading in the House.

In the Senate Education Committee PCB EDC 15-02 regarding the FHSAA was taken up along with several other bills and passed to their next Committees of assignment. As shared earlier this week the effort by some is to change the direction and program of the FHSAA and break what they believe is an *expensive athletic monopoly*. The PCB that does not have a bill number at this time sets an effective date in 2017 for the Florida Education Commissioner to select a new or modified approach of the current FHSAA & a three year review each such period thereafter. The FHSAA could be retained with certain agreed to modifications or a new agency with a different name & structure could be chosen. The vote 12/5 was bipartisan in favor of the changes.

The Senate Companion by Stargel SB 1480 has not been placed on a Committee agenda to date & has differing language. If successful, through the balance of committee assignments, the House PCB will change the current FHSAA governance, establish a 16-member Board (that would be less representative of the actual private school sector than the current Board); require a third-party review for students suspected of being ineligible and allow students to continue to play while their eligibility is reviewed; though games would be forfeited if the student is later ruled ineligible. Additionally broader options would be open for schools to pick and choose the sports they would like to participate in rather than the current "all in or not at all" approach.

Looking at the coming week several bills will be taken up and we are waiting for the next round, this time on the House side to get Rep. Perry's dual enrollment bill on the House Education agenda. Perry's bill has different language than the Senate Bill discussed in the recent Capital Update.

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