



Montana Legislative Services Division

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REQUESTER REVIEW OF INITIAL BILL DRAFT

DATE: October 18, 2012
TO: Legislative Council
FROM: Leanne Kurtz

Enclosed is a draft of LC0322, which I believe implements your request. After you have reviewed the draft, please immediately return the attached instruction letter to me or call me at 444-3064 with your instructions.

In accordance with Legislative Council Rules of Procedure, if I have not received instructions from you by 5 p.m. on Thursday, November 01, 2012, I will place the enclosed draft on hold or submit the draft for legal review by the Legislative Services Division.

After this draft has been submitted for legal review, you may request additional changes. However, after one redo, additional changes requested by you will result in the draft being moved to the bottom of my bill drafting priority list. An exception may be made for clerical errors only.

INSTRUCTION LETTER FOR PROCESSING LC0322 AFTER INITIAL REVIEW

Deadline for notifying drafter with your instructions: Thursday, November 01, 2012

TO: Leanne Kurtz
FROM: Legislative Council

I have received LC0322 for initial review, along with its cover letter dated October 18, 2012.

Here are my instructions for processing LC0322:

- [] **PROCEED.** This draft is satisfactory as is. Please submit this draft for legal review by the Legislative Services Division now.
- [] **PROCEED AFTER MAKING THE ENCLOSED CHANGES.** Enclosed are changes that will make the draft satisfactory. Please submit this draft for legal review by the Legislative Services Division after making these changes.
- [] **MAKE THE ENCLOSED CHANGES--THEN RETURN TO ME.** Please return the draft (with changes made) to me for review.
- [] **PUT ON HOLD. I NEED MORE TIME TO REVIEW THIS DRAFT.** I have no changes to make at this time, but I need more time to determine what, if any, additional changes need to be made.
- [] **CANCEL THIS DRAFT REQUEST.**

Signature _____

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As of: October 18, 2012 (1:07pm)

LC0322

**** Bill No. ****

Introduced By *****

By Request of the Legislative Council

A Bill for an Act entitled: "An Act establishing the school funding interim committee; requiring the committee to conduct a study of educational needs and costs related to a basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools; providing for committee membership; requiring issuance of a report; appropriating \$250,000 from the general fund to the legislative services division for operation of the committee and any contracted services; and providing an immediate effective date."

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Montana:

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. School funding interim committee.**

(1) There is a school funding interim committee. Pursuant to 20-9-309(5), the committee shall:

(a) conduct a study to reassess the educational needs and costs related to the basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools; and

(b) if necessary, incorporate the results of those assessments into the state's funding formula.

(2) In conducting the study, the committee shall:

(a) review the work and conclusions of the quality schools interim committee established in 2005;

(b) review how the state's education funding policy has

Unofficial Draft Copy

As of: October 18, 2012 (1:07pm)

LC0322

evolved as a result of litigation;

(c) consider any recommendations provided by other interim or standing legislative committees;

(d) seek input from representatives from the board of public education, the office of public instruction, the governor's office, private organizations, professional educators, school trustees, and members of the public; and

(e) consider the state's existing and projected financial resources as well as the needs and concerns of Montana taxpayers.

(3) The members of the committee are:

(a) four members of the house of representatives, two from each party, appointed by the speaker of the house in consultation with the house democratic leader and the house republican leader;

(b) four members of the senate, two from each party, appointed by the president of the senate; and

(c) as ex-officio, nonvoting members:

(i) the presiding officer of the board of public education or the presiding officer's designee;

(ii) the superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's designee; and

(iii) the governor or the governor's designee.

(4) The committee shall select its presiding officer from among the voting members at the first meeting of the committee.

(5) The committee is attached for administrative purposes to the legislative services division.

(6) The committee may:

(a) authorize research and studies to be conducted by

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As of: October 18, 2012 (1:07pm)

LC0322

reputable and reliable experts in the public or private sectors;
and

(b) request research and analysis from the legislative fiscal division, the office of public instruction, the department of revenue, and any other state agency or entity that maintains information or data relevant to the study.

(7) On or before September 15, 2014, the committee shall issue a report on the committee's findings and recommendations.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Appropriation.** There is appropriated \$250,000 from the general fund to the legislative services division for costs associated with operation of the committee and any contracted services the committee considers to be warranted.

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. {standard} Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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