

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 21
2 INTRODUCED BY D. BEDEY
3 BY REQUEST OF THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE
4

5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE PROCESS FOR ADOPTION OF SCHOOL
6 ACCREDITATION STANDARDS; REQUIRING THAT ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENTS FOR CERTAIN
7 ACCREDITATION STANDARDS INCLUDE AN ANALYSIS OF THE TIME REQUIRED FOR
8 IMPLEMENTATION; REASSIGNING THE REVIEW OF ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENTS TO
9 LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEES; REQUIRING THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TO REQUEST
10 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION TO SEEK FUNDING FOR STANDARDS DETERMINED
11 DURING THE LEGISLATIVE INTERIM TO REQUIRE SUBSTANTIAL EXPENDITURES; AMENDING
12 SECTION 20-7-101, MCA; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES AND A TERMINATION DATE."

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14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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16 **Section 1.** Section 20-7-101, MCA, is amended to read:

17 **"20-7-101. Standards of accreditation Accreditation standards -- process for adoption.** (1)
18 ~~Standards of accreditation~~ (a) Accreditation standards, as defined in 20-1-101, for all schools must be adopted
19 by the board of public education upon the recommendations of the superintendent of public instruction. The
20 superintendent shall develop recommendations in accordance with subsection (2). ~~The~~ For an accreditation
21 standard that requires implementation by school districts, the recommendations presented to the board must
22 include an economic impact statement, as described in 2-4-405, prepared in consultation with the negotiated
23 rulemaking committee under subsection (2).

24 (b) For accreditation standards addressing academic requirements, program area standards, or
25 content and performance standards, the economic impact statement under subsection (1)(a) must include an
26 analysis of the ability of school districts to implement the standard within existing resources, including time. The
27 intent of this subsection (1)(b) is to ensure that school districts have the capacity to adhere to required

Amendment - 1st Reading/2nd House-blue - Requested by: Daniel Salomon - (S) Education and Cultural Resources

68th Legislature

Drafter: Pad McCracken, 406-444-3595

HB0021.001.002

1 (d) school business officials;

2 (e) parents; and

3 (f) taxpayers.

4 (3) Prior to adoption or amendment of any accreditation standard, the board shall submit each
5 proposal, including the economic impact statement required under subsection (1), to:

6 (a) during a regular legislative session, the joint appropriations subcommittee on education; or

7 (b) during the legislative interim, the education interim-legislative finance committee, established in
8 5-12-201, for review at least 1 month in advance of a scheduled committee meeting. Information provided
9 during an interim must be provided to the legislature in accordance with 5-11-210.

10 (4) Unless the expenditures by school districts required under the proposal are determined by the
11 education interim appropriate committee under subsection (3) to be insubstantial expenditures that can be
12 readily absorbed into the budgets of existing district programs, the board may not implement the standard until
13 July 1 following;

14 (a) under subsection (3)(a), the current legislative session; or

15 (b) under subsection (3)(b), the next regular legislative session and shall request the
16 superintendent of public instruction include a request in the superintendent's budget that the same legislature
17 fund implementation of the proposed standard.

18 (5) The provisions of this section may not be construed to reduce or limit the authority of the
19 education interim committee to review administrative rules, including accreditation standards, within its
20 jurisdiction pursuant to 5-5-215.

21 (5)(6) Standards for the retention of school records must be as provided in 20-1-212."

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23 **COORDINATION SECTION. Section 3. Coordination instruction.** If both House Bill No. 110 and
24 [this act] are passed and approved, then [sections 2, 4, and 5 of this act] are void, and [this act] is effective on
25 passage and approval.

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27 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective dates.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), [this act] is