

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION -- ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER FUNDING

Comprehensive Evaluation of Common Core State Standards
[LFB Paper #535]

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Motion:

Move to prohibit the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) from taking further actions to implement as standards for the state or directing districts to implement any common core standards developed by the Common Core State Standards Initiative until DPI conducts a comprehensive evaluation of the common core standards as provided in this motion.

Require DPI to adopt college and career readiness educational standards no later than July 1, 2014. Require that the educational standards meet national and international benchmarks for college and career readiness standards and be aligned with postsecondary educational expectations. Require DPI to implement educational standards that use the common core standards as the base model for academic standards to the extent necessary to comply with federal standards to receive a flexibility waiver under 20 U.S.C. 7861. Provide that higher academic standards could be adopted that supplement or supplant the common core standards if the higher educational standards would qualify for a flexibility waiver under 20 U.S.C. 7861 because the higher educational standards meet United States Department of Education flexibility waiver requirements that ensure college and career readiness of students. Provide that any common core standards adopted by DPI before July 1, 2013, remain in effect until the Department adopts the educational standards described above.

Specify that the educational standards described above could not be adopted until: (a) the State Superintendent has received and considers: (1) DPI's evaluation of the common core, described below; (2) the final report of the legislative study committee, described below; and (3) the fiscal impact statement prepared by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, described below; and (b) DPI holds at least three public meetings and takes public testimony regarding the adoption of educational standards after DPI considers the information described under (a).

Before September 1, 2013, require the Department to provide a written evaluation of the common core standards to the: (a) Governor; (b) Speaker of the Assembly and President of Senate; and (c) chairperson of the legislative study committee, described below.

Request that the Legislative Council establish a legislative study committee to study issues relating to common core standards or other standards. If approved, specify that no later than November 1, 2013, the legislative committee shall submit the committee's final report to the Legislative Council, Governor, and DPI. Require the report do all of the following: (a) compare existing Wisconsin standards with the common core standards; (b) consider best practices in developing and adopting the standards, seeking information from a broad range of sources,

including: subject area teachers from elementary and secondary schools in Wisconsin; subject area instructors and experts from postsecondary educational institutions; and any other standards the study committee considers to be superior standards; and (c) evaluate the cost to the state associated with implementing Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers assessment or the Smarter Balanced assessment by schools. Require the legislative study committee to hold at least three public meetings.

Before September 1, 2013, require the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, in consultation with DPI, estimate the fiscal impact to the state if DPI: (a) fully implements the common core standards; and (b) discontinues the implementation of the common core standards.

Define "common core standards" to mean educational standards developed for kindergarten through grade 12 by the Common Core State Standards Initiative.