

HB 399 -- Lapse of School Districts

Sponsor: Cunningham (86)

Currently, a school district that has achieved provisional accreditation after having been declared unaccredited has no limit on the amount of time it may remain provisionally accredited. This bill requires the State Board of Education to place a cap of no less than one and no more than two full school years on such districts to regain full accreditation or face lapse of district corporate structure.

The bill also makes changes to the hearing that is required to be held in a district after it is declared unaccredited, by stating that the hearing must be held at least 60 days prior to the date of lapse. A special administrative board, which may be appointed by the State Board of Education to monitor unaccredited districts, is also given standing to enjoin school board actions that might result in waste of assets. The State Board of Education is given the option of permitting a lapsed district to continue to operate under its existing governance structure pursuant to terms and conditions the board establishes.