

HB 941 -- 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 these 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 no more than 60 days after the date the district is declared unaccredited and by clarifying the purposes of the hearing. A special administrative board, which may be appointed by the state board to monitor unaccredited districts, is also given standing to enjoin school board actions that might result in wastage of assets. The administrator of this board must be a resident of the state or establish residency within 90 days of appointment. The state board 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.