

HB 528 -- Education Programs for Gifted and Talented Children

Sponsor: Sommer

This bill requires the State Board of Education within the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to designate a staff member to oversee educational programs for gifted and talented children and establishes the position's responsibilities, which include developing an approval process for programs for gifted and talented children by September 1, 2014; collecting and maintaining program information; identifying funding sources; and serving as the contact person on staff for the issue.

The bill also specifies the administrative functions of the state board regarding the issue, including oversight, analysis, the establishment of personnel standards, and a personnel development program for teachers and administrators. The bill establishes the Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children, a seven-member advisory council appointed by the department commissioner. Organizations with an interest in the education of gifted and talented children may submit membership recommendations, and the commissioner will select members based on his or her knowledge and experience with the issue. The commissioner must seek the advice of the council regarding all rules and policies relating to the education of gifted and talented children; the staff person will act as the state board's liaison to the council.