

HB 2828 -- MEMBERS OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION - PENALTIES

SPONSOR: Morris

This bill changes the duties of the State Board of Education. In doing so it adds a definition of "supervise instruction," a term currently existing in statute, so as to create more detailed responsibilities of the board. Such duties include approving and reviewing certain information as well as reporting to the Joint Committee on Education. The definition also includes provisions requiring certain rules, information, and actions to be reviewed by The Joint Committee on Education. The details of the above provisions are described within the bill.

This bill also requires the board to report to the House Appropriations Committee the investment of certain moneys. Further changes, again, require certain information to be reported to The General Assembly. The board must also provide a comprehensive budget that is published for public review on the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) website along with a table of changes in federal education laws and regulations and state and federal judicial rulings that directly affect the management of public schools.

This bill also requires the board to receive a report from the chief officer of each division of DESE. Such report must contain an organizational chart labeling all job positions within the department, description of responsibilities of each position, and the funding source for the positions. Other information must be published on the website as described within the bill.

This bill will also require the board to provide accurate and documented testimony during all communications with members of the legislature and legislative committees. The State Board must also record and make available on the DESE website their meetings, as described within the bill.

This bill will also establish penalties for any member of The State Board of Education who willfully neglects or refuses to perform duties imposed upon him, as described within the bill. Such penalties include: being guilty of a misdemeanor, being prosecuted by The Attorney General, removal from office, a fine of not more than \$5000, and imprisonment.