

**Snapshot Comparison**  
**Omnibus Education Finance and Policy Bills**  
as of April 22, 2013

Topics	Senate SF 453 and SF 978	House HF 630	MREA Responses
<b>Funding:</b>			
<b>Targets</b>	\$336 m plus \$150 m tax relief	\$470 m plus \$30 m tax relief	Support House target, Senate does not keep up with inflation
<b>Basic Funding</b>	1% and 0%	2% and 2%	Blend House and Senate with GEL to get at 1.5% in FY '14 and a net somewhat more than 2% in FY '15
<b>K</b>	All day K at district's choice in FY '15	All day K at district's choice in FY 15	Support, universal access to all day full day Kindergarten in platform
<b>Early childhood</b>	Scholarships (MinneMinds) at \$44 m	Scholarships (MinneMinds) at \$50 m and more in tails	A scholarship commitment date to a program is needed for planning purposes. MREA suggests May 1 so schools may staff and plan for fall.
<b>Equity for Districts with less than \$300 referendum</b>	\$87 for districts with zero referendums to get them to \$100 equity aid	Up to \$300 in FY '14 to bring all districts up to \$300. Board can levy up to \$300 with board authority beginning in FY '15, up to \$400 in metro districts	Support House. Was in platform. House position closes the 5 <sup>th</sup> to 95 <sup>th</sup> gap by 20% and is only step in this direction in either bill.
<b>Spec Ed</b>	Nothing	Most of the MDE working groups recommendations in FY '16	Support House, wish more were done here to reduce cross subsidies.
<b>Integration</b>	70%, new eligibility percentages	70% new eligibility percentages	Support new percentages as capturing more truly rural diversity
<b>Taxes:</b>			
<b>ANTC Relief and General Education Levy (GEL)</b>	\$170 m from ANTC Levy by moving operating capital, safe schools and Equity from levy to aid, creates a \$20 m GEL to provide \$56/PU revenue in FY '15. Net reduction \$150 m	Nothing on ANTC	Support Senate: Districts should look at possibility of bond election in fall of '13 for school safety, deferred maintenance, every day all day K facilities, needs local solutions.
<b>RMV Relief and Equalization</b>	RMV equalization raises 1 <sup>st</sup> Tier to \$586,000 and lowers the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tier to \$259,000	Indexes the RMV Tiers to average RMV/PU statewide (RMVEF). Raises the 1 <sup>st</sup> Tier to 122% of RMVEF and Tier 2 to 66%: (\$526,000 and \$284,560 respectively)	Support House approach. The property poorest districts with the largest referendums (highest current tax burdens) get the greatest tax relief in the House position. Not the case in the Senate position
<b>Safe Schools Levy</b>	Increased from \$30/PU to \$32/PU	Increased from \$30/PU to \$35/PU	Both are absolutely inadequate given threats to safety. See note to consider a local bond election.
<b>Cyrus and Morris</b>	Local bonding authority for Cyrus to demolish building to consolidate with Morris	Local bonding authority for Cyrus to demolish building to consolidate with Morris	Support, was a local initiative, MREA was able to assist here for both member districts. Their local legislators worked across the aisle for the kids of these districts.

<b>Policies:</b>			
<b>Safe and Supportive Schools</b>	In bill in entirety. Local Impact Statement: \$26 m. statewide, average \$30/pupil statewide	In bill in entirety. 42 rural districts responded to LIN, inverse relation size to cost: \$38 in smallest districts, \$15 in large urban districts	MREA supports positive and safe school cultures. This bill is a unfunded mandate that will have greater relative impact on medium to smaller school districts.
<b>Repeal of GRAD Rule; assessment reform</b>	In bill in entirety, fierce opposition from Bus Partnership and Chamber over the “cut score” issue	In bill in entirety, fierce opposition expect up to \$1m ad campaign—“Dumming Down the Diploma”	Support both, was part of platform. Contact Reps and Senators, tell your stories of students worthy of graduation
<b>Teacher Eval</b>	One year delay until 15/16	Nothing, \$289 m EM & MSBA estimated costs	MREA recommends districts develop their own plans. Support Senate.
<b>Statewide health</b>	Voluntary enrollment into PEIP for districts and employees	Mandatory enrollment into PEIP for districts insuring fewer than 1,000 total lives	MREA supports a balance of local control and state mandates. Senate position reflects that balance.
<b>2% Staff Dev Set Aside</b>	Nothing	Nothing	This is likely to be reinstated. Local admin, bd and teacher leaders need to be in communications on this.
<b>World Class Work Force, RCE’s district accountability</b>	Nothing	Somewhat detailed, 100% goals by 2027 (entering K’s),MDE can withhold aid and direct school turnarounds for districts	Support the goals in concept. MREA calls for this to be addressed in Task Force of stakeholders and brought back to the ’14 legislature.
<b>MTLE Reform</b>	Allows up to 3 years temporary waivers	Allows up to 3 years temporary waivers and district can retain teacher with annual request to BOT	Support, prefer the House position which gives districts more authority to keep teachers who are doing a quality job in the classroom.
<b>Free Lunch Expansion</b>	If parent state they cannot pay Reduced Lunch Fee, district must provide a class A lunch for free	Rejected the amendment in committee, nothing in bill.	Supports House position. This opens up an unfunded mandate.
<b>School Year</b>	Nothing	Nothing	Lost calendar reform in House Ways & Means; no action in Senate
<b>Pupil Units</b>	Simplifies Pupil Units to 1.0 K-6 and 1.2 for secondary, adjusts formulas	Nothing	Support the Senate. This does simplify the formula. Needs a larger target so every district is a winner.
<b>Facility Study</b>	Establishes a working group to study facility needs & funding.	Nothing	Support Senate position. Was in platform. Was MREA suggestion.

**What are my Action Steps?**

With Whom	About What	By When
1.		
2.		
3.		