

MREA's 2015 List of Issues/Bills on which MREA is *Voicing* Greater MN Perspectives March 6, 2015

MREA Platform Issues

- 1. Facility Fallout from inadequate facility maintenance revenue in 92% of MN school districts
 - a. Ag2School Long Term Maintenance Revenue & Equalization—moving from ANTC to RMV with Equalization
 - b. Ag2School Tax Equity for Debt Service—an Ag Land Tax Credit/State tax to lower the peaks in debt payments
 - c. Enhanced equalization for natural disasters, consolidating districts and high debt service <u>SF 489 Dahle/HF</u> 1147 Norton
 - d. Debt service equalization at 125% of ANTC (Working Group recommendation) SF 490/ HF 784 Dahle/Norton

2. Early Learning Expansion, Coordination

- a. Governor's Four year old proposal HF 844/SF 811 Loon/Wiger
- b. School Readiness Expansion—HF 252/SF 155 Newton/Wiger
- c. Scholarships HF 1220 Kresha /SF NA
- d. ECFE Fund Balance Transfer SF 593/HF 996 Lourey/Sundin SF 333/ HF NA Lourey

3. Quiet Teacher Crisis of teacher shortages

- a. MTLE empirically determined cut scores--Erickson
- b. Teacher Loan forgiveness-- SF759 Jensen/HF 1170 Bennett
- c. TDE funding for 14/15 for Educational Cooperatives and Educational Districts HF 334/SF133 Bly/Dahle
- d. TDE funding for non-Qcomp districts annually—MASBO doing study of TDE costs SF 1124 Stumpf/ HF NA
- e. LIFO and other provisions of HF 2--Loon/SF 473 Pratt
- f. Out of State License clarification -- SF 767 Jensen/HF 645 Kiel
- g. Districts making determination for licensure—SF 298 Stumpf/HF NA
- h. Ag teacher loan forgiveness-- SF 1084 Jensen/HF880 P. Anderson
- i. BOT seats appointed by Economic Development Regions, Honorarium for BOT members--Erickson

4. Secondary to Post Secondary and Career

- a. Rural STEM Experiential Learning Pilot Project— SF 471 Saxhaug/HF 555 Backer
- b. Concurrent Enrollment—SF 995 Clausen/ HF 1217 Davnie
- 5. Support for AMI students; expansion of Success for the Future
- 6. School Calendar—local control of learning year HF 100/SF 115 SF 162/HF 197 SF 288/HF 366 HF 925/Sf NA

Other Relevant Issues

7. Formula

- a. 1&1 HF 844/ SF 811 Loon/Wiger to 3&3--Nienow
- b. LOR ideas; additional equalization for districts with high seasonal rec and high RMV
- 8. **Special Ed Paperwork documentation**—requires districts to contract with vendors for seamless transference of records, repeals 125A.085 requiring MDE to contract for one vendor—HF 804 Christianson SF 740 Pratt
- 9. HITA-the ability of school districts to bid for health insurance through cooperative purchasing processes

10. School Transportation

- a. School transportation categorical HF 40 Persell/SF 157 Saxhaug
- b. Rural Special Ed transportation-- <u>SF 382 Jensen/HF 380 Schomaker</u>
- c. Transportation Sparsity—SF 741 Saxhaug / HF1389 Persell

11. Proposed New Mandates

- a. PE and student physical assessments mandates SF 343/HF 448 Kent/Dettmer
- b. Counselor ratios SF 472/HF 552 Bonhoff/Gunther HF 605/ SF NA Newton
- c. Civics test requirement Urdahl HF1497/SF NA