

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar
Vote:	9 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Dembrow, Harker, Huffman, Komp, Maurer, Sprenger, Thatcher, VanOrman, Gelser
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Roblan
Prepared By:	Kevin T. Christiansen, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Permits Superintendent of Public Instruction, pursuant to rules adopted by State Board of Education, to specify alternative date for distributing funds to school districts and education service districts; to specify alternative date for districts to estimate number of students in average daily membership; to waive reporting date or specify alternative date for districts to provide required reports and audit information; and to extend time for submitting plan to correct school deficiencies. Permits alternative deadlines or waiver of deadlines in the event of a human-created or natural disaster. Declares an emergency; effective July 1, 2009.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Complying with statutory deadlines in the event of a human-created or natural disaster
- Examples of potential disasters and ramifications on funding to schools
- Need for greater flexibility in the event of human-created or natural disaster

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, the Superintendent of Public Instruction does not have authority to waive or extend required reporting dates and dates for distribution of funds to school districts in cases of emergency. Instead, the superintendent is required to withhold State School Fund payments if school districts fail to comply with required reporting deadlines, regardless of the circumstances. Similarly, if the Department of Education experiences a human-created or natural disaster, there is no statutory flexibility to permit a delay in the distribution of funds.