

SB 5522

Chief Education Office

SB 5522 is the budget bill for the Chief Education Office. This Office coordinates education related programs from early learning through post-secondary. It is also responsible for the development and maintenance of the Statewide Longitudinal Data System.

The Capital Construction Subcommittee recommends a budget of \$4,022,118 General Fund and 13 positions. This represents the funding for the first year of the biennium. A special purpose appropriation to the Emergency Board of \$3,972,118 is included in the bill for the cost of the Office in the second year of the biennium. This combined amount of just under \$8 million is \$2 million less than the current service level. Six positions and 5.75 FTE were eliminated, and over \$400,000 for Regional Achievement Compact support and other activities was reduced from the budget.

With the ongoing discussions on the governance structure for education and with the scheduled sunset of this Office at the end of the 2017-19 biennium, the Legislature and other policy makers will have the opportunity to determine the proper role for this Office during the 2018 legislative session.

The Capital Construction Subcommittee recommends SB 5522 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.