

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 7: Department of Education Director of School Facilities

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Education Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative McLain

The Education Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means recommend authorizing the establishment of one permanent position (1.00 FTE) for the Department of Education in a budget reconciliation bill during the 2024 legislative session to oversee the Office of School Facilities.

Over the past several biennia, the Department of Education has implemented new programs to help local school districts with various aspects of managing, maintaining, and improving their buildings. Through the Office of School Facilities, school districts can apply for capital improvement matching and other types of grants, and participate in the statewide school facilities assessment that will provide districts with no-cost facility condition assessments. As new programs and projects have been added over time, the School Facilities program staff has grown past the agency's approved maximum supervisory ratio, and an additional management position is needed for program oversight. The cost of this position can be absorbed within the Department's existing budget in the current biennium, and will be paid for through the Department's administrative indirect cost pool in future biennia.

The Education Subcommittee recommends approval.