

Submitter: Donna Bleiler
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB521

I OPPOSE SB 521.

The reason given for this bill is to align statutory language with constitutional language to require that corporate kicker be used to fund kindergarten through grade 12 public education.

This appears to be a slight of hand to allow the funds to be used for other school programs than going to the classrooms. Voters passed the constitutional amendment with the assurance that the funds would go to directly benefit the State School Fund.

This bill does not align with the constitution. The constitution states:
"shall be retained in the General Fund and used to provide additional funding for public education, kindergarten through twelfth grade."

The bill conveniently leaves out "for public education" which to voters means the State School Fund for education of the three Rs. If your going to use the excuse to align, the align or confess what you really have in mind.