

Senate Bill 8 (1st Called Session) – Summary

Permits salary reductions: Repeals the provision in law that prohibits districts from reducing the salaries of teachers, librarians, counselors, nurses and speech pathologists below 2010-11 levels.

Permits furloughs for as long as state and local revenue per WADA remain below 2010-11 levels:

- Allows districts to furlough educators for up to six *non-instructional* days and to reduce salaries in proportion to the number furlough days, for each school year that the commissioner certifies that the district will receive less state and local revenue per WADA than the district received during the 2010-11 school year;
- Prohibits an educator from using paid leave while on furlough, but the furlough will not constitute a break in service for purposes of the Teacher Retirement System;
- Prohibits a school board that implements a furlough after the penalty-free-resignation date from seeking sanctions against the certificate of a teacher who subsequently resigns;
- Makes a board's decision to implement furlough final and not appealable, and states that a board's decision to implement a furlough does not create a cause of action.
- Requires the commissioner of education to *certify*, by July 1 of each year, the estimated *percentage decrease* in each district's state and local funding per WADA under the Foundation School Program below the amount the district received in the 2010-11 school year, adjusted for any changes in the district's M&O tax rate, net of recapture, and calculated according to the methodology that existed on January 1, 2011.

Removes the “last in-first out” requirement for continuing contract terminations: Eliminates the requirement that a reduction in personnel for continuing contract employees be implemented in reverse order of seniority.

Changes the 45-day nonrenewal notice deadline: Changes the *deadline for providing notice of contract renewal or non-renewal* for term and probationary contracts from 45 days prior to the last day of instruction to *10 days prior to the last day of instruction*.

voids the employment contract of an employee whose certification is void:

- Allows the district to terminate, suspend without pay or continue employing the employee in a position that does not require certification.
- Prohibits the district from terminating or suspending an employee whose contract is void, however, if the educator requests a certificate/permit extension from the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) and takes the actions necessary to validate the certification/permit within 10 days from the date the contract is void.

Limits Fitness Gram: Limits the administration of the Fitness Gram to courses for physical education credit.

