

One Hundred Fourth Legislature - Second Session - 2016

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB882

Chairperson: Senator Kate Sullivan

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: February 9, 2016

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB882 is intended to accomplish three distinct features:

1. LB882 will limit a school district's ability to exceed its allowable growth percentage. Currently, a district may, by a 75% + 1 vote of the board exceed the limit by 1%. LB882 changes 13-519 to state that a school board can exceed the limit by 1%, or the amount needed to meet the shortfall, whichever is less.
2. LB882 will add cash reserves into the allowable growth rate percentage. Currently, cash reserves are not included in the allowable growth rate, and therefore are allowed to grow at any percent, up to the statutory limit. This bill limits cash reserves growth at the basic allowable growth rate, with the statutory caps still in place.
3. LB 882 removes the unused budget authority carry-forward for school districts. Currently, school districts with unused budget authority are able to carry a percentage of it forward to coming school years. This bill will remove the ability of school districts to increase future growth beyond the allowable growth rate.

Together, these changes will place a cap on school district growth.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Jim Scheer