

HEAC Legislative Report – 11/10/09

Chris Hamilton

House Deadlines:

Thursday, November 12, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.	Last day to sign off on 2010 legislation
Wednesday, December 2, 2009	Last day for committees to report retained bills
Wednesday, January 6, 2010	Last day to introduce House bills for 2010 Session

Senate Deadlines:

Wednesday, October 28, 2009	First day to file legislation for 2010 Session.
Friday, November 06, 2009, at 4:00 p.m.	The Office of Legislative Services shall not draft a Senate Bill, Senate Concurrent Resolution, or Senate Joint Resolution, unless a request by a member for drafting with complete information has been received not later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, November 06, 2009, for the 2010 Session.
Wednesday, December 09, 2009, at 4:00 p.m.	The last day to sign-off legislation for the above filing period shall be Wednesday, December 09, 2009, at 4:00 p.m.

Although the deadlines have passed for submitting LSR's, it takes Legislative Services a while to post all of them at the General Court's website. The total list may not be available to the public until the end of this week. As the bills are researched, the titles become more specific, and it is possible that some LSR's that I have not considered may be relevant to home education.

Home education bills

HB368 – retained for study Sponsors: (Prime) Judith Day

10/13/09 1:00 PM LOB 207 – Notification Subcommittee *The subcommittee voted to require that notification be written.*

10/20/09 9:00 AM LOB 205 – Evaluation & Records Subcommittee Work Session *The subcommittee considered a proposal submitted by the chair, Rep Philip Harvey, that would require both testing and portfolio evaluations of a home education program to be done by the district. The floor was opened to members of the public for comment on the proposal.*

10/20/2009 10:00 AM LOB 207 – Survey to Superintendents Subcommittee Work Session *The subcommittee voted 1) to recommend that the DOE collect numbers of programs going on and coming off probation each year, and 2) to encourage the use of HEAC as a way to resolve disputes between parents and school officials. Rep Rous may bring forward an amendment regarding truancy at the executive session.*

10/28/2009 1:30 PM (or after House Session) LOB 207 – Evaluation & Records Subcom Work Session *The subcommittee voted down the proposal submitted by Rep Harvey. It then considered a proposal submitted by Rep Rous. It voted to require the portfolio evaluator be someone other than the parent, unless the participating agency permits it, and to require the child to be present during an interview for a portfolio evaluation, except under unusual circumstances.*

10/28/2009 2:00PM (or after Eval&Rec Subcommittee meeting) LOB207 – Probation and Appeals Subcommittee Work Session *The committee met briefly and adjourned with no discussion.*

10/28/09 LOB 205, 2:00 (or after House Session) – Definitions Subcommittee Work Session *The subcommittee discussed the list of subjects, and considered revising it a) to make it consistent with current standards and b) to add specific subjects. It also discussed whether subjects should be taught every year, and whether the definitions of “parent” and “child” should be changed.*

11/10/2009 1:00 PM LOB 207 – Definitions Subcommittee Work Session

11/19/2009 10:00 AM LOB 207 – Executive Session

LSR # 2559 relative to the procedure for initiating a home education program. Sponsor: (Prime) David Bates == WITHDRAWN

LSR # 2632 relative to home schooling. Sponsors: (Prime) Paul Ingretson

Truancy Bills

HB 154, relative to truancy Sponsors: (Prime) Nancy Stiles, Lucy Weber, Barbara Shaw, Edward Moran, David Welch (all members of the Committee to study truancy statutes)

10/8/09, 10:00 AM, Room 103, LOB – SEC meeting on re-referred bills

11/12/09, 10:00 AM, Room 103, LOB – Executive Session

Compulsory Attendance/Dropout Bills

LSR # 2512 – requiring school boards to develop dropout prevention policies. Sponsors: (Prime) Andrew R. Peterson

Parental rights

LSR # 2236 – relating to parental rights. Providing that the state shall not abridge the responsibility of parents for the health, education, and welfare of their children. Sponsors: (Prime) Daniel C Itse

Child Protection Act, DCYF, Custody

LSR # 2584 – relative to grounds for removal of a child from the home in abuse and neglect cases. Sponsors: (Prime) Mary Stuart Gile

There are also a number of bills and LSR's that have the potential to affect the operation of HEAC.

Right-to-Know Law

HB53 – relative to the definition of "public body" under the right-to-know law. Sponsors: (Prime) *This bill has been retained by the House Judiciary Committee, and will be discussed in executive session 11/17/09 10:00 AM LOB208.*

HB135 – relative to remedies for violation of the state right-to-know law. *"This bill requires a court to invalidate an action of a public body or agency taken at a meeting held in violation of the provisions of RSA 91-A. Current law does not mandate a court to invalidate such action" This bill has been retained by the House Judiciary Committee, and will be discussed in executive session 11/17/09 10:00 AM LOB208.*

HB425 – relative to remedies under the state right-to-know law and continually appropriating a special fund. ” *This bill clarifies the remedies for violations of the right-to-know law. The bill establishes a civil penalty for violations of the law which are to be deposited in a special fund. This bill is a request of the right-to-know oversight commission established in RSA 91-A:11.*” *This bill has been retained by the House Judiciary Committee, and will be discussed in executive session 11/17/09 10:00 AM LOB208.*

2010-H-2013-R relative to posting of minutes under the right-to-know law. Sponsors: (Prime) Liz H Merry

Sunsetting

HB2 in 2009 contained the following language: ”*144:87 Boards, Commissions, and Councils; Expiration Date. I.(a) Except as provided in subparagraph (b), all non-regulatory boards, commissions, councils, advisory committees, and task forces in state government created by statute or administrative rule shall expire on June 30, 2011, unless reinstated by the general court. The office of legislative services shall provide a list of all such boards, commissions, councils, advisory committees, and task forces in state government created by statute or administrative rule to the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate president, and the governor on or before September 30, 2009.*” *The members of the “Committee to Study the List of Non-regulatory Boards, Commissions, Councils, Advisory Committees, and Task Forces under Paragraph I” has been appointed, and has met four times, including a meeting at noon today. The DOE has provided to the committee a list of all such bodies under its purview. HEAC is on that list.*

2010-H-2037-R relative to the expiration dates of certain committees. Sponsors: (Prime) L. Mike Kappler

2010-H-2129-R sunsetting all committees and commissions after a 2-year term. Sponsors: (Prime) Nancy J Elliott