



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 435

January Session, 2005

Substitute House Bill No. 6682

House of Representatives, April 19, 2005

The Committee on Education reported through REP. FLEISCHMANN of the 18th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT REPRESENTATION ON LOCAL AND REGIONAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) Not later than July 1, 2006,
2 each local and regional board of education with at least one high
3 school under its jurisdiction shall include one or more preferential
4 voting pupil members, in addition to the number of board members
5 pursuant to sections 9-203 and 10-46 of the general statutes. A
6 preferential vote shall not serve in determining the final numerical
7 outcome of a vote. No preferential vote shall be solicited on matters
8 subject to closed session discussion. High school students may apply
9 to be a preferential voting pupil member in a manner prescribed by the
10 board. For purposes of this section, "preferential voting" means a
11 formal expression of opinion that is recorded in the minutes and cast
12 prior to the official vote of the governing board.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6682

AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT REPRESENTATION ON LOCAL AND REGIONAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires every local and regional board of education that has one or more high schools under its jurisdiction to include, by July 1, 2006, at least one student member in addition to its regular members. It requires boards to allow student members to express formal opinions, have them recorded in the meeting minutes, and cast their votes on questions prior to the board's official vote. The bill names these privileges "preferential voting."

The bill does not allow preferential votes to count towards the final outcome of any vote, nor does it allow preferential voting on matters subject to discussion in closed session, presumably under the Freedom of Information law. Such matters include personnel decisions and litigation and security strategy and negotiations. It allows boards to prescribe how high school students must apply to become preferential voting members.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2005

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 22 Nay 2