



legislative preview

## welcome and purpose

Paul Krohne  
*Executive Director, SCSBA*

John Hughes,  
*SCSBA President, Marion Area 2 Board Member*

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## webcast info

- talk to legislators about issues before January
- handout available [www.scsba.org](http://www.scsba.org)
- type questions, comments in chat box near bottom of screen

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communicating  
common core state standards

Debbie Elmore  
*Communications Director, SCSBA*

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## communicating CCSS

- National Governors Association, State Superintendents of Education
- English/language arts, mathematics standards
- standards not new to SC
- look for bills ending implementation
- strengthen communications at the local level

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scjet:  
restructuring education funding

Scott Price  
*General Counsel, SCSBA*

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a package deal only

- equalize, simplify state K-12 spending in reasonable, realistic manner
- level and stabilize the tax burden playing field
- strengthen the state-local education partnership with greater transparency and accountability

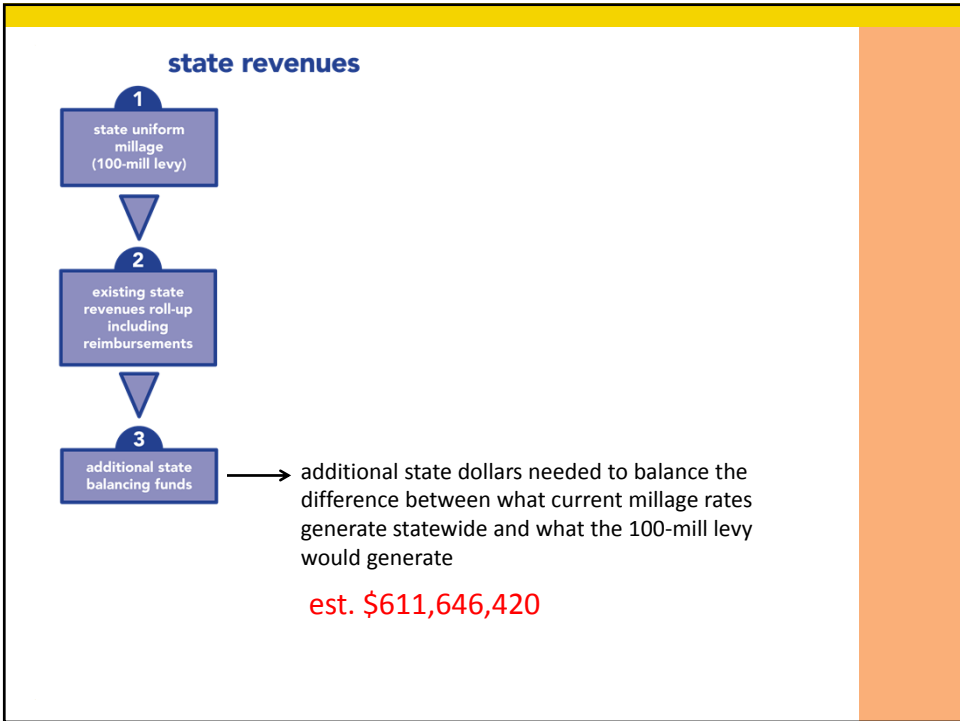
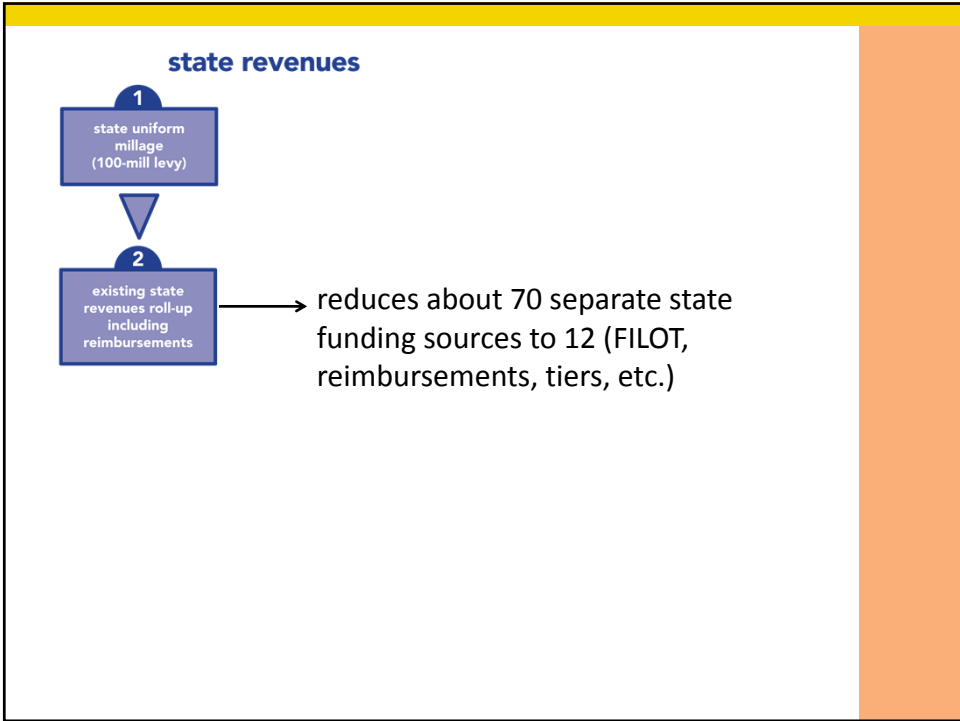
**SC jobs,  
education  
and tax  
act  
of 2013 (scjet)**

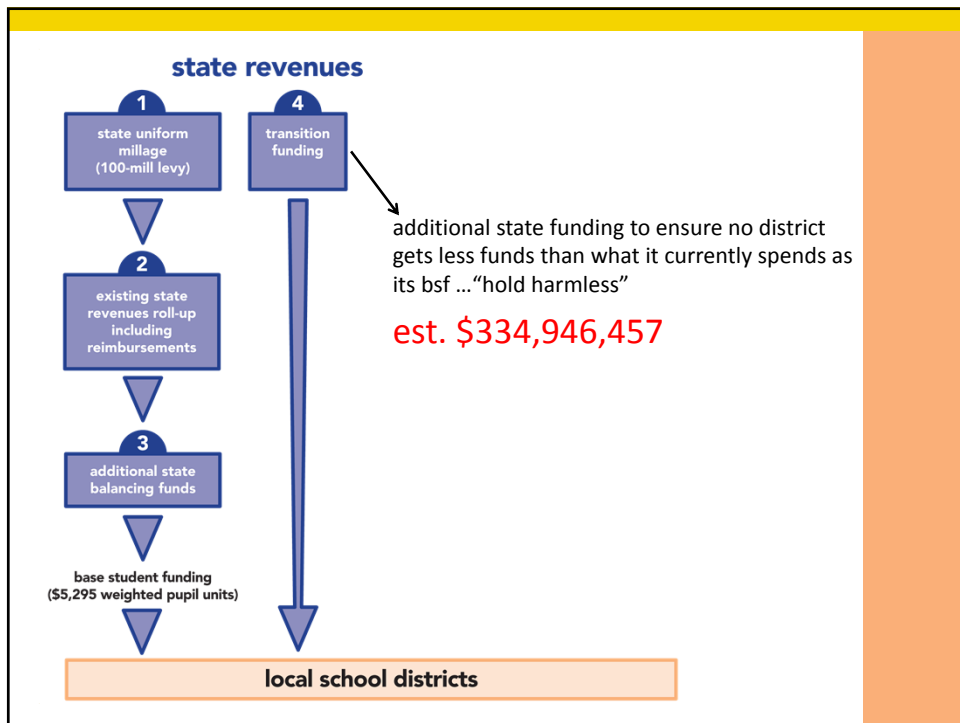
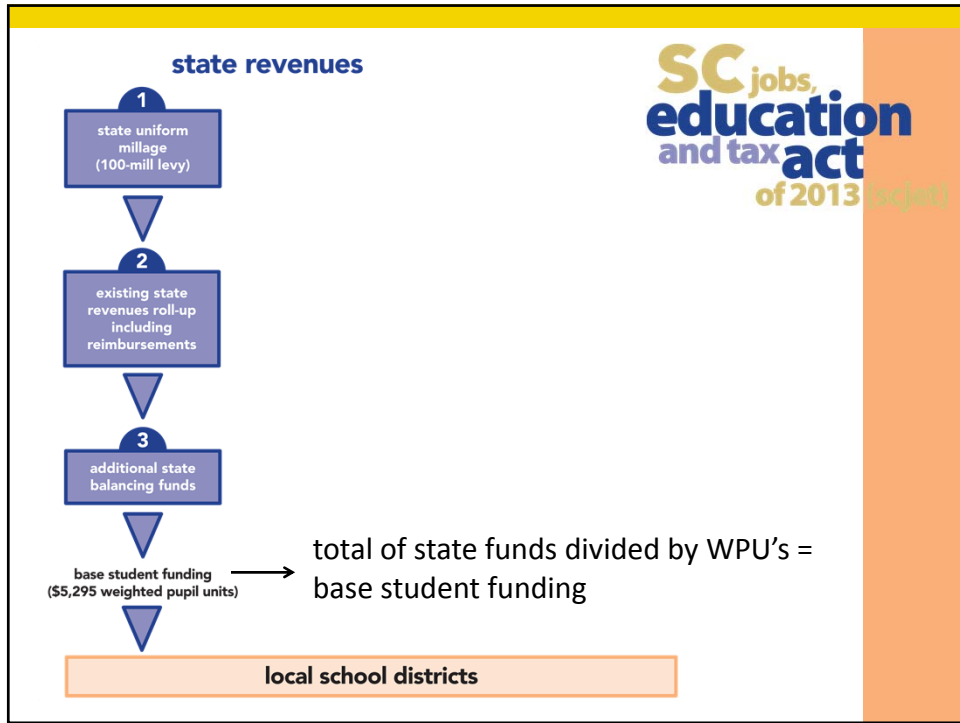
how it works ...

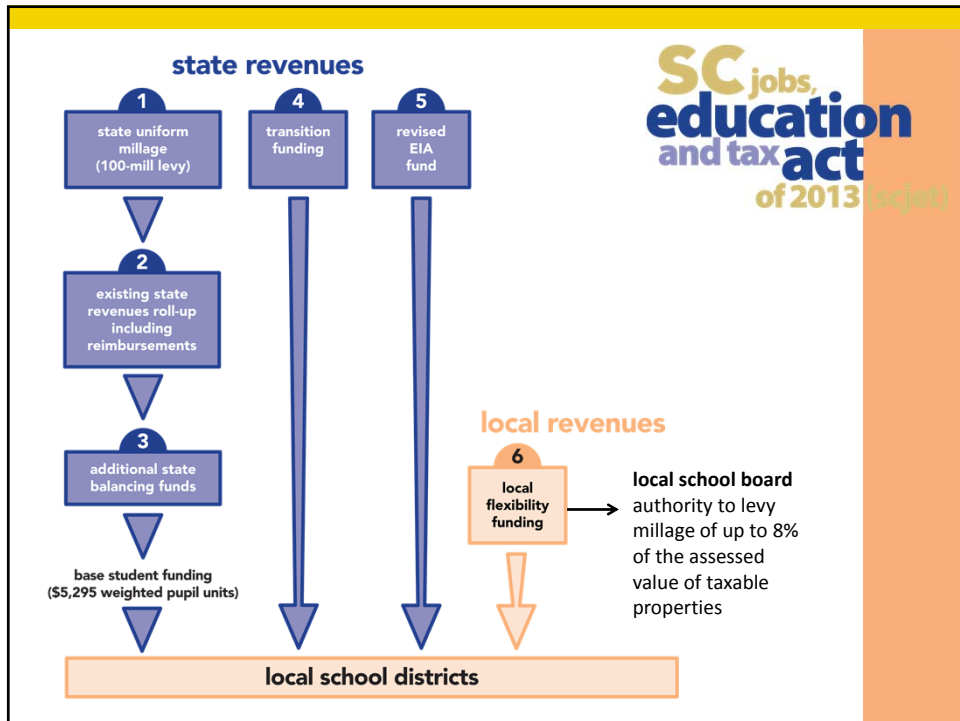
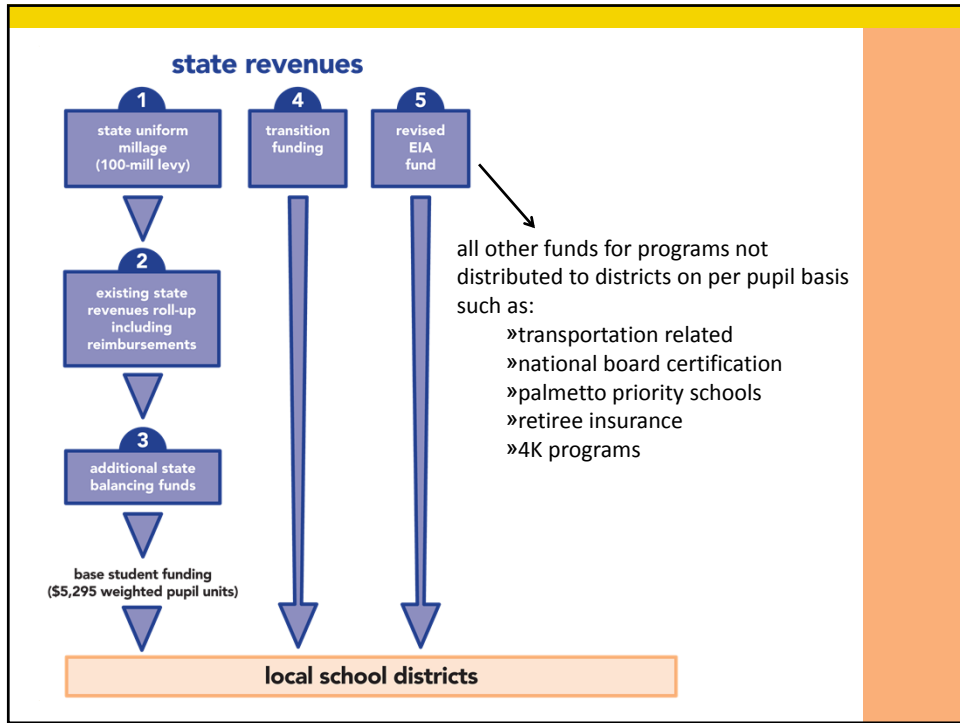
**state revenues**

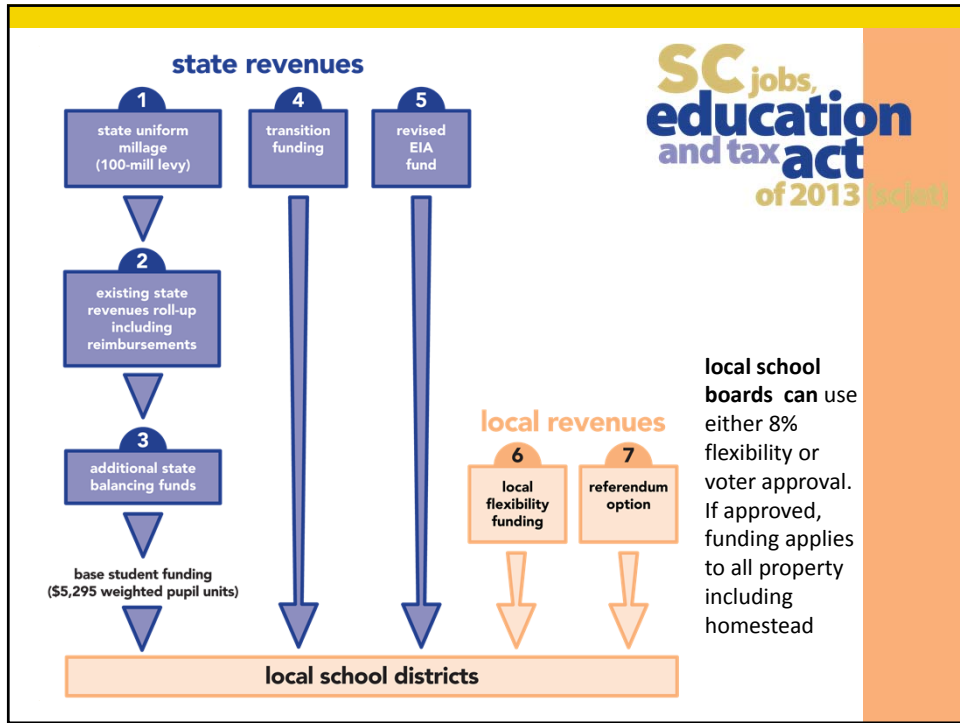
**1**  
state uniform  
millage  
(100-mill levy)

**SC jobs,  
education  
and tax  
act  
of 2013 (scjet)**



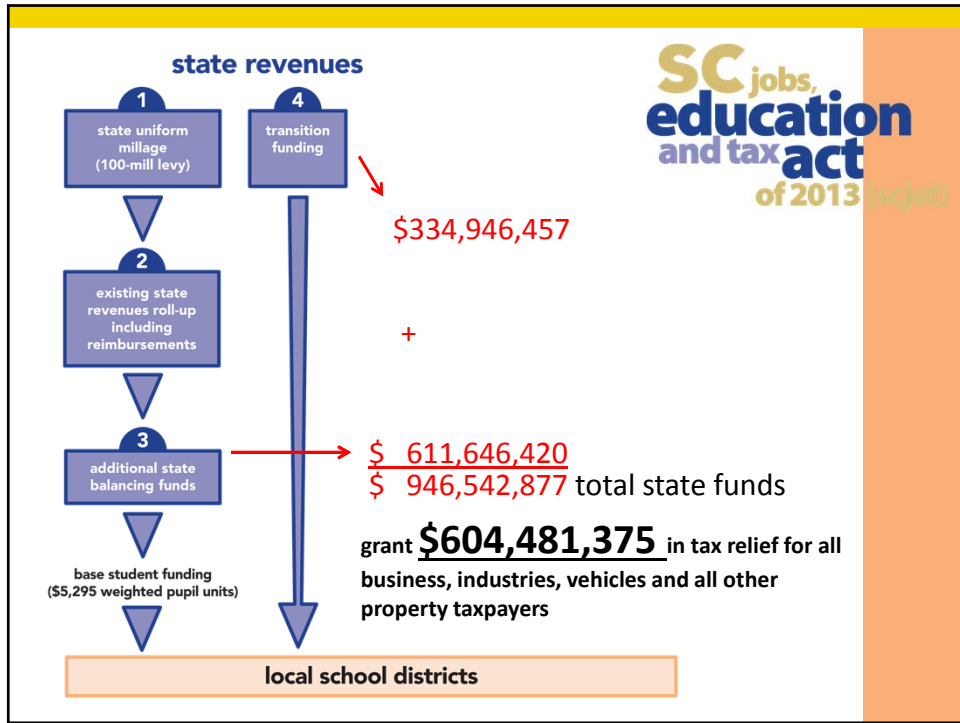






what it will take ...





other major provisions...

»EOC WPU: 1.0 with add-ons

- poverty
- limited English
- remediation
- gifted and talented
- disabilities
- adult (17-21)
- vocational/career

»manufacturing assessment ratio from 10.5% to 6%


»annual inflation factor:

- state salary schedule, step and benefits increases

»reserves: state – 5% district – 15%

»transition

- new revenue to low revenue districts – phase-in over 3 years
- transition funds –phase-out over 25 years (4% per year)



tuition tax credit/voucher program

Scott Price  
*General Counsel, SCSBA*

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## Proviso 1.85

- education credit for exceptional needs children (ECENC)
- allows creation of nonprofit 501(c)(3) scholarship funding organizations (SFOs)
- SFO allocates vouchers up to \$10,000 per child for tuition, transportation, or textbook expenses for “exceptional needs” students attending an independent school
- “exceptional needs” designated by SDE
  - meets federal regulation requirements
  - parents/legal guardian believe resident district services not meeting child’s needs

## Proviso 1.85

- forbids the "regulat[ion] of the educational program of an independent school that accept students receiving scholarship grants"
- permits “dollar for dollar” tax credit for amounts contributed to a qualified SFO. Credit limited to 60 percent of contributors income tax liability
- tax credits capped at \$8 million and are awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis
- EOC charged with “qualifying” independent schools that wish to participate in the program

### 3 SFO's listed on EOC website

- Palmetto Kids FIRST Scholarship Program, Inc.
- Advance Carolina
- Diocese of Charleston

### **S.279**

- includes vouchers, tax credits and tax deductions for students to attend private and home schools
- tax deductions of \$4,000 for private school; \$2,000 for home school; and \$1,000 a public school outside resident district
- tax credits for donations by individuals, partnerships or corporations to SFO - credits not to exceed 60% of the taxpayer's tax liability

**S.279 cont.**

- donors cannot specify child or school
- at least 95% of annual contributions go to grants (up to 5% for administrative costs)
- free/reduced lunch/Medicaid students capped at \$15 million annually; exceptional needs capped at \$10 million

**S.279 cont.**

- vouchers for free/reduced/Medicaid not to exceed \$5,000 or the cost of tuition, whichever is less
- vouchers for "exceptional needs" students not to exceed \$10,000 or the cost of tuition, whichever is less
- "accountability" provisions include
  - all students be administered national achievement or state standardized tests at progressive grade levels
  - student test scores, by category and for all grades tested, must be submitted annually to the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) and published on its website

## **S.279 cont.**

- no state agency may regulate the educational program
- participating school must be a member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the S.C. Association of Christian Schools, or the S.C. Independent Schools Association
- EOC establishes regulations concerning school requirements, determines if a school meets the criteria and reports to an advisory committee.



**legislative issues roundup:**

Scott Price  
*General Counsel, SCSBA*

Duane Cooper  
*Legislative and Advocacy Coordinator, SCSBA*

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## EAA modernization proposal

- change EAA to mirror SDE federal accountability system
- three components
  - school/district grading
  - reporting
  - intervention

## expanded intervention

- SC Transformation School District (SCTSD)
  - separate from SDE/SBE
  - require 5-year transformation plans for schools
  - operate schools with flexibility like charter schools (e.g., at-will employment)
  - each school reports to SCTSD superintendent, not local resident district
- target lowest performing 5% of schools and bottom 10% of schools with the widest achievement gaps

## SCTSD

- schools funded with local, state and federal money (follows the child)
- during 4<sup>th</sup> year, SCTSD superintendent recommends to SDE/SBE
  - return school to local district,
  - convert school to charter school,
  - continue in the SCTSD, or
  - close the school

## SDE regulation 43-205 changes

- current regulation
  - defines teacher, administrator qualifications
  - describes duties, work loads for school-level personnel
- proposed changes deletes
  - various requirements that regulate class size
  - personnel are authorized in the schools
  - work hours for teachers
  - core subjects
  - teacher and administrator qualifications
- second reading SBE Policy and Legislation subcommittee Oct. 9 at 9:45 a.m.



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## legislative issues roundup: parent trigger law

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*Legislative and Advocacy Coordinator, SCSBA*

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### parent empowerment act S.556

- resides in senate education Committee
- would allow parents of students enrolled in a school designated at-risk or a school to sign a petition and ultimately force a school to
  - convert to a charter
  - transform under a turnaround model, restart model or a transformation model

## models breakdown

- turnaround model
  - principal be replaced
  - school staff be screened / no more than 50% rehired
  - new governance structure to include district turnaround office and district turnaround leader who reports to the superintendent
- restart” model
  - convert to charter school OR
  - close and reopen under a charter school operator, a charter management organization, or an education management organization.
- transformational model
  - develop, increase teacher and school leader effectiveness
  - comprehensive instructional reform
  - increase learning time
  - create community-oriented schools
  - provide operational flexibility, sustained support

## parent trigger laws

- about 25 states have considered parent trigger laws
- 7 have enacted a version of the law:  
California, Connecticut, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Ohio and Texas

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## legislative issues roundup: 4K expansion

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*Legislative and Advocacy Coordinator, SCSBA*

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### Child Development Education Program (CDEP) expansion S.134

- targets in priority order:
  - eight districts in the Abbeville school funding case: Allendale, Dillon 2, Florence 4, Hampton 2, Jasper, Lee, Marion 7, and Orangeburg 3
  - remaining plaintiff districts in the lawsuit
  - statewide
- both public and private providers eligible for transportation funds

## CDEP expansion

- about 50% SC 4-year-olds not in 4K
- 78% in CDEP; more than 40,000 would be eligible
- \$87 million cost

## 2013-14 budget provisos

- \$24 million to expand to an additional 17 school districts
- funds split between public and private providers (65 percent / 35 percent)
- school districts prohibited from building or adding additional space or displacing current students to accommodate expansion

## SCSBA position

- supportive of extending services to all 4-year-olds at a public school or appropriate state and federal agencies with adequate funding



**legislative issues roundup:  
read to succeed act**

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*Legislative and Advocacy Coordinator, SCSBA*

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## read to succeed act S.516

- ensure students can read by the fourth grade through a coordinated focus on reading in the primary grades
- retain third-graders whose scores on the state reading tests and other indicators fall in the bottom of the lowest tier

## S.516 cont.

- SDE establishes a reading office and reading proficiency panel
- students screened for school readiness as they enter kindergarten
- interventions include after-school programs, summer reading camps, reading coaches
- schools keep parents informed of reading progress, steps school has taken, actions for parents

## S.516 cont.

- reading training provided to teachers
- districts develop, publish annual reading plan, intervention options and funding
- elementary teachers required to earn a literacy credential within 7 years

## S.516

- SCSBA generally supportive if
  - adequate, stable state funding
  - resources and assistance provided

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## Education Votes 2014

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*Legislative and Advocacy Coordinator, SCSBA*

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## Education Votes 2014

- 2013 special elections
  - state senate district 42 election (10/1/13)
    - Marlon Kimpson (winner)
  - state house district 17 (3/12/13)
    - Mike Burns (winner)
  - state house district 93 (scheduled 10/29/13)
    - Charles “Charlie” Stoudemire (GOP)
    - Russell L. Ott (Dem)
- what’s at stake in 2014?
  - all state house seats
  - all constitutional offices including governor and state superintendent
- public education community impact?



## new voter ID law

- beginning January 1, 2013, voters must show one of the following:
  - SC driver's license
  - ID card issued by DMV
  - S.C. voter registration card w/photo
  - federal military ID
  - US passport



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## closing comments

John Hughes

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## reminders

- report names to Sandy Poole by Oct. 31
- evaluation web link to come
- Legislative Advocacy Conference & Annual Business Meeting, Dec. 6-8, Hilton Head
- SCSBA Annual Conference, Feb. 20 – 23, 2014 Kingston Plantation, Myrtle Beach

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