

BOARD OF EDUCATION AMENDMENTS

2016 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Lyle W. Hillyard

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions relating to the State Board of Education.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

▶ allows the State Board of Education to:

• take certain actions if an entity that receives state funds from the State Board of Education violates certain law;

• require a local education agency to, in contracts between a local education agency and a private entity, include certain provisions giving audit power to the State Board of Education; or

• appoint an attorney for certain purposes;

▶ gives rulemaking authority; and

▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53A-1-401, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 305



28 53A-1a-503.5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 363



30 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

31 Section 1. Section **53A-1-401** is amended to read:

32 **53A-1-401. Powers of State Board of Education -- Adoption of rules --**

33 **Enforcement.**

34 (1) As used in this section:

35 (a) "Board" means the State Board of Education.

36 (b) "Education entity" means an entity that receives a distribution of state funds from
37 the board.

38 (c) "Local education agency" or "LEA" means:

39 (i) a school district;

40 (ii) a charter school; or

41 (iii) the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

42 ~~[(1)]~~ (2) (a) The State Board of Education has general control and supervision of the
43 state's public education system.

44 (b) "General control and supervision" as used in Utah Constitution Article X, ~~[Sec.]~~
45 Section 3, [of the Utah Constitution] means directed to the whole system.

46 ~~[(2)]~~ (3) The board may not govern, manage, or operate school districts, institutions,
47 and programs, unless granted that authority by statute.

48 ~~[(3) The board may adopt rules and policies in accordance with its responsibilities~~
49 ~~under the constitution and state laws, and may interrupt disbursements of state aid to any~~
50 ~~district which fails to comply with rules adopted in accordance with this Subsection (3).]~~

51 (4) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the
52 board may make rules to execute or delegate the board's duties and responsibilities under the
53 Utah Constitution and state law.

54 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) (a) The board may sell any interest it holds in real property upon a finding by
55 the board that the property interest is surplus.

56 (b) The board may use the money it receives from a sale under Subsection ~~[(4)]~~ (5)(a)
57 for capital improvements, equipment, or materials, but not for personnel or ongoing costs.

58 (c) If the property interest under Subsection ~~[(4)]~~ (5)(a) was held for the benefit of an

59 agency or institution administered by the board, the money may only be used for purposes
60 related to the agency or institution.

61 (d) The board shall advise the Legislature of any sale under Subsection [~~(4)~~] (5)(a) and
62 related matters during the next following session of the Legislature.

63 [~~(5)~~] (6) The board shall develop policies and procedures related to federal educational
64 programs in accordance with Title 53A, Chapter 1, Part 9, Implementing Federal or National
65 Education Programs Act.

66 [~~(6)~~] (7) On or before December 31, 2010, the State Board of Education shall review
67 mandates or requirements provided for in board rule to determine whether certain mandates or
68 requirements could be waived to remove funding pressures on public schools on a temporary
69 basis.

70 (8) (a) If an education entity violates this title or rules authorized under this title, the
71 board may, in accordance with the rules described in Subsection (8)(c):

72 (i) require the education entity to enter into a corrective action agreement with the
73 board;

74 (ii) temporarily or permanently withhold funds from the education entity;

75 (iii) require the education entity to pay a penalty; or

76 (iv) require the education entity to reimburse specified funds to the board.

77 (b) Except for temporarily withheld funds, if the board collects funds under Subsection
78 (8)(a), the board shall contribute the funds to the Minimum School Program, as defined in
79 Section [53A-17a-103](#).

80 (c) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the
81 board shall make rules:

82 (i) that require notice and an opportunity to be heard for an education entity affected by
83 a board action described in Subsection (8)(a); and

84 (ii) to administer this Subsection (8).

85 (d) The board shall report criminal conduct of an education entity to the district
86 attorney of the county where the education entity is located.

87 (9) The board may require, by rule made in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah
88 Administrative Rulemaking Act, that if an LEA enters into a contract with a private entity, the
89 LEA shall require by contract that the private entity shall submit, upon request of the board, to

90 an audit of the use of funds received by the private entity from the LEA.

91 (10) (a) The board may appoint an attorney to provide legal advice to the board and
92 coordinate legal affairs for the board and the board's employees.

93 (b) An attorney described in Subsection (10)(a) shall cooperate with the Office of the
94 Attorney General.

95 (c) An attorney described in Subsection (10)(a) may not:

96 (i) conduct litigation;

97 (ii) settle claims covered by the Risk Management Fund created in Section [63A-4-201](#);

98 or

99 (iii) issue formal legal opinions.

100 Section 2. Section **53A-1a-503.5** is amended to read:

101 **53A-1a-503.5. Status of charter schools.**

102 (1) Charter schools are:

103 (a) considered to be public schools within the state's public education system;

104 (b) subject to Subsection [53A-1-401](#)~~[(3)]~~(8); and

105 (c) governed by independent boards and held accountable to a legally binding written
106 contractual agreement.

107 (2) A charter school may be established by:

108 (a) creating a new school; or

109 (b) converting an existing public school to charter status.

110 (3) A parochial school or home school is not eligible for charter school status.