

Summary of Legislation Related to AEA Services

Enrolled House File 2612

The bill, as it relates to AEA services, includes:

Shifts Additional Staffing, Oversight to the Department of Education Division of Special Education

- The Department of Education Director will have supervision authority over all nine AEAs
- AEA boards will become mostly advisory in nature (with limited authority for approving contracts, etc.) effective July 1, 2024, and 4 of the 9 board members must be superintendents or their designees.
- Effective July 1, 2024, the Department of Education will employ and house a director of special education within each AEA.
- Effective July 1, 2024, creates positions within the Department of Education Division of Special Education to ensure the AEA complies with all applicable federal and state laws. This is in addition to 13 new Department of Education positions housed in Des Moines.
- Requires professional development provided by an AEA to be from a list of content approved by the Director of the Department of Education.

Creates a Task Force

Creates a task force to study all parts of the AEA system, reportable to the legislature by Dec. 31, 2024.

Shifts AEA Funding

- No change in Special Education funding for the 2024-2025 school year. Beginning July 1, 2025, a "90/10" split takes effect, with districts keeping 10% of special education funds annually.
- Media and Educational Services funds: Beginning July 1, 2024, a "60/40" split begins where districts receive 60% of funds and the AEA receives 40% of funds. Beginning July 1, 2025,100% of funding in both areas goes to districts.

Other Items of Note

- Chief Administrator salaries can not exceed 125% of the AEA's average superintendents' salary.
- This legislation provides a new process for AEA accreditation.
- AEAs may continue to enter into operational sharing agreements.
- AEAs may own and lease facilities and buildings with state board of education approval.
- AEAs provide quarterly financial reports to districts regarding district-utilized services.
- A district may utilize services from a contiguous AEA or if a superintendent is shared by districts in different AEAs.