

CCSESA FOCUS

A Weekly Update to County Superintendents of Schools

Thursday, May 15, 2014

Bill Amended to Extend ROCP MOE by Two Years for School Districts

On May 1, AB 2216 (Muratsuchi) was amended to extend through 2016-17 the requirement that school districts expend for regional occupational centers and programs (ROCPs) no less than they had expended in 2012-13. The current maintenance of effort (MOE) is in place through 2014-15.

The Assembly Education Committee analysis describes the purpose of the MOE as being to “protect existing ROC/P investments and infrastructure while an alternative model (if any) was developed.” AB 2216 would extend the MOE requirement by two years and direct the State Superintendent to convene a task force to study funding models and report recommended options by September, 2016.

Although AB 2216 currently does not extend the MOE requirement for county offices of education, CCSESA is very concerned about the amendment and has adopted an “Oppose Unless Amended” position on the bill. The amendment we will be seeking is to remove from the bill the extension of the MOE requirement.

A central concept of the Local Control Funding Formula is that local agencies will have flexibility to work collaboratively and use their resources to address local needs. The MOE significantly reduces that local flexibility and delays efforts that are underway to transition to local implementation and accountability under the new funding model.

For county offices of education, the specific concern is that an extended MOE requirement might also be imposed on county offices. The impact on many counties would be devastating because they are receiving no additional state funding under the new funding model. For those counties, the transition to the new funding model is only possible if they have flexibility with the funds previously earmarked for ROCPs.

AB 2216 will next be considered by the Assembly Appropriations Committee. It is important for county superintendents to reinforce with their local state legislators that the maintenance of effort requirements must not be extended beyond 2014-15.

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