


MEMORANDUM

TO: Members and Staff, Public Education and Special Schools Subcommittee
Rep. Kenny Bingham, Chair
Rep. Rita Allison
Rep. Mike Anthony
Ms. Emily Heatwole

FROM: Melanie Barton 
Interim Executive Director

DATE: January 11, 2012

RE: EOC Budget Recommendations

On December 12, 2011 the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) adopted the budget and proviso recommendations for the Education Improvement Act (EIA) budget for Fiscal Year 2012-13. The recommendations are made with the following objectives in mind:

1. To encourage collaboration with higher education, business and community leaders throughout the state to guarantee all students are career or college ready upon graduation from high school; and
2. To promote student success.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, between 2008 and 2018 the fastest-growing, highest-paying jobs will require education beyond high school. Jobs in the United States are projected to increase by 19 percent (1.2 million) by 2018 for people with associate's degrees and by 17 percent (3.1 million) for those with bachelor's degrees.¹ Another 13 percent (1.2 million) will require postsecondary vocational certificates. Reading proficiency is critical for the success of our students and the economic future of our state and nation.

If *all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities*, the EOC's Vision for 2020, we must focus our efforts and resources on:

- greater parental and community involvement in public education;
- effective leadership at the school and district levels;
- knowledgeable, skillful, enthusiastic and caring teachers in our classrooms; and
- financial flexibility in the allocation and expenditure of funds.

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¹ *South Carolina Featured Facts from the SREB Fact Book on Higher Education*, Southern Regional Education Board, 2011. <http://publications.sreb.org/2011/SouthCarolina11.pdf>.

To these ends, the EOC recommends the following allocation of EIA revenues for Fiscal Year 2012-13:

EIA Budget Recommendations	EIA Base	Recommended
	2011-12	2012-13
EIA Recurring Base Appropriation	\$564,300,834	\$564,300,834
Consolidation of Line Items:		
A. Line Items for Disabled Students Consolidated into Aid to Districts		
Handicapped Student Services	\$3,045,778	(\$3,045,778)
P.L. 99-457 Preschool Children with Disabilities	\$2,878,146	(\$2,878,146)
Aid to Districts Consolidation of Line Items: Increase in Funding:	\$37,736,600	\$5,923,924 \$6,396,819
B. Line items for teacher salaries and fringe benefits consolidated		
Teacher Employer Contributions	\$15,766,752	(\$15,766,752)
Teacher Salaries	\$77,061,350	\$15,766,752
Reduction of Line Items:		
Department of Disabilities & Special Needs (Teacher Pay)	\$763,653	(\$150,000)
New Line Items:		
Teach For America South Carolina	\$0	\$2,000,000
S ² TEM Centers SC	\$0	\$1,750,000
Education Infrastructure and Innovation Initiative	\$0	\$32,500,000
TOTAL:		\$606, 797,653

In addition, the EOC does not request any increase in its EIA appropriation for Fiscal Year 2012-13. The agency's current year's budget is detailed below:

EIA 2011-12 Appropriation	\$1,193,242
Less:	
Transfer to Teacher Supply Funds (Proviso 1A.38)	<u>(\$ 200,000)</u>
Net:	\$ 993,242

Description of New Line Items:

Teach For America South Carolina – Having successful leaders in the classrooms of our most challenged schools is critical to changing the expectations and culture of many of our schools. The goal of Teach For America is to recruit top college graduates and professionals to teach in public schools in low-income communities, with high annual teacher turnover rates, and consistently low student achievement. To date, private funds alone have brought 31 Teach For America corps members to the school districts of Clarendon 2, Darlington, Florence 1, Orangeburg 3 and Orangeburg 5. The recommendation is to expand the program with both state and private funds. The goal is to have an additional 75 corps members teaching in South Carolina in 2012-13 and another 125 in 2013-14. The initial state appropriation would be \$2.0 million in Fiscal Year 2012-13 with a possible increase of \$1.0 million for FY14 and an increase of \$500,000 for FY15, pending the availability of funding. Excluding depreciation and amortization, the cost to the state for this initiative would be \$15,830 per teacher in FY13 for recruitment, selection and training. Corps members who teach for three years in the program receive certification. School districts pay the entry level salaries of corps members with existing state, local and federal monies.

S²TEM Centers SC (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) – To support existing and future companies with a trained workforce, the EOC proposes investing \$1,750,000 to transform the five regional math and science centers and the South Carolina Coalition for Mathematics and Science at Clemson University into an entity for innovation, research and implementation in STEM education. The coalition would establish a formalized STEM education infrastructure plan funded with both public and private funds. Already, The Boeing Company has decided to invest \$750,000 over a three-year period to assist ten schools in integrating strategies to improve reading of informational text in the content areas of math and science. The results of the work in these ten schools will provide research and strategies to implement other structural changes in curriculum and learning. Other manufacturers including BMW, Michelin, and 3M already support the work of the Coalition.

Education Infrastructure and Innovation Initiative – The EOC recommends an appropriation of \$32,500,000 in a new initiative that would develop a five-year plan to address technology needs and to promote innovation in education, including community colleges and charter schools. Up to 15 percent of the EIA appropriation would be used to develop the plan with the balance of funds in the program carried forward into the subsequent fiscal year to begin implementation of the plan. The plan would:

- Determine infrastructure needs of public schools, including charter schools, and technical colleges. With an increase in dual enrollment and virtual courses, including the technical colleges is imperative to the economic development of the state;
- Determine 21st century curriculum, instruction, assessments and accountability needs that will promote improved learning through innovation;
- Identify technology tools for the classroom, including instruction for children with disabilities; and
- Identify professional development needs of teachers and administrators

At a minimum, the following individuals and entities would be involved in developing the five-year plan:

Governor;
General Assembly;
State Superintendent of Education and South Carolina Department of Education;
South Carolina Department of Commerce;
South Carolina Technical College System;
ETV;
State Library; and
Division of State Information Technology (DSIT) of Budget and Control Board