



93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY
State of Illinois
2003 and 2004
SB2539

Introduced 2/3/2004, by Kimberly A. Lightford

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/34-18.30 new

Amends the Chicago School District Article of the School Code. Provides that, prior to the closure of any school or the consolidation of one school with another, the person recommending the closure must provide certain notifications, conduct a school closure impact study that includes certain information concerning the school proposed to be closed or consolidated, and solicit an alternative proposal from the local school council or interested school members of the school proposed to be closed or consolidated. Requires the district to accept and review any submitted alternative proposals and hold at least one public hearing on these proposals in the affected community.

LRB093 20395 MKM 46169 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section
5 34-18.30 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/34-18.30 new)

7 Sec. 34-18.30. School facility closure; consolidation.

8 Prior to the closure of any school or the consolidation of one
9 school with another, the person recommending the closure or
10 consolidation shall:

11 (1) Notify the board of the recommendation at least 6
12 months prior to requesting a vote on the closure or
13 consolidation by the board, and no later than the board's
14 December meeting of that school year.

15 (2) Provide written notification of any proposal to
16 close or consolidate a school or schools to all affected
17 principals and local school councils at least 6 months
18 prior to a vote by the board regarding the closure or
19 consolidation.

20 (3) Provide written notification to the parents or
21 guardians of students potentially affected by any school
22 closure or consolidation proposal at least 6 months prior
23 to a vote by the board regarding the closure or
24 consolidation.

25 (4) Conduct a school closure impact study, the purposes
26 of which are (i) to ensure that the quality of educational
27 opportunity and breadth of educational programming and
28 resources at any school that receives students displaced
29 from a school closure or consolidation are equal to or
30 better than those provided by the school or schools
31 proposed to be closed or consolidated and (ii) to measure
32 the impact on the educational climate, resources, and

1 performance of the receiving school or schools. This study
2 shall include input from the local school council that, at
3 a minimum, includes the following information about the
4 school for which a proposal has been made to close or
5 consolidate:

6 (A) enrollment trends over the past 5 years;

7 (B) scores on tests required under Section 2-3.64
8 of this Code over the past 5 years;

9 (C) an analysis of transfer placement options for
10 any students displaced from a school proposed to be
11 closed or consolidated, including distance traveled
12 and transportation costs;

13 (D) a comparison of educational programs between
14 the school being closed or consolidated and all of the
15 schools that potentially may receive the displaced
16 students;

17 (E) a comparison of academic performance between
18 the school being closed or consolidated and all of the
19 schools that may potentially receive the displaced
20 students;

21 (F) a comparison of class sizes between the school
22 being closed or consolidated and all of the schools
23 that potentially may receive the displaced students;

24 (G) a detailed assessment of the effect on class
25 size, overall enrollment, and educational resources of
26 the impacted schools; and

27 (H) disclosure of the district's plan for the
28 future or disposition of the school proposed to be
29 closed or consolidated.

30 (5) Solicit an alternative proposal from the local
31 school council or interested school members of the school
32 under consideration for closure or consolidation. This
33 proposal shall outline alternatives to closing or
34 consolidating the school. The district must accept and
35 review any submitted alternative proposals and hold at
36 least one public hearing on these proposals in the affected

1 community.