



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB5727

Introduced 2/16/2012, by Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/34-1.05 new

Amends the School Code. Creates the Chicago Educational Governance Task Force for the purpose of recommending the best structure and procedure for the governance of City of Chicago School District 299. Sets forth the composition of the Task Force and the duties of the Task Force. Requires the Task Force to report its recommendation to the General Assembly on or before May 30, 2013 as to which governance structure is best designed to serve the students of the City of Chicago.

LRB097 19537 NHT 64791 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

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 34-1.05 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/34-1.05 new)

7 Sec. 34-1.05. The Chicago Educational Governance Task
8 Force.

9 (a) The General Assembly makes the following findings:

10 (1) City of Chicago School District 299 is one of the
11 only school districts in this State with an appointed, not
12 an elected, school board.

13 (2) For 15 years, City of Chicago School District 299
14 has implemented a staggering number of reforms, including
15 probation, student retention, school closings, charters,
16 turnarounds, and the wholesale firing of 1,300 educators in
17 the summer of 2011.

18 (3) Many of these reforms are controversial and require
19 a robust democratic discussion and decision-making
20 process.

21 (4) For the past 15 years, citizens have had little to
22 no voice in school policy.

23 (5) All children must be able to walk across the street

1 to receive a world class education.

2 (b) The Chicago Educational Governance Task Force is
3 created for the purpose of recommending the best structure and
4 procedure for the governance of City of Chicago School District
5 299 in order to protect the welfare of the students of the City
6 of Chicago.

7 (c) The Task Force shall be composed of the following
8 members:

9 (1) Two members each appointed by the Speaker of the
10 House of Representatives and the Minority Leader of the
11 House of Representatives, at least one of whom must either
12 be a member of the Elementary & Secondary Education
13 Committee or a member whose representative district
14 includes a portion of City of Chicago School District 299.

15 (2) Two members each appointed by the President of the
16 Senate and the Minority Leader of the Senate, at least one
17 of whom must either be a member of the Education Committee
18 or a member whose legislative district includes a portion
19 of City of Chicago School District 299.

20 (3) Two representatives of Chicago school community
21 organizations with past involvement in school governance
22 issues, appointed by the Speaker of the House of
23 Representatives.

24 (4) Two representatives of Chicago school community
25 organizations with past involvement in school governance
26 issues, appointed by the President of the Senate.

1 (5) The Chief Executive Officer of City of Chicago
2 School District 299 or her or his designee.

3 (6) The President of the Chicago Board of Education or
4 her or his designee.

5 (7) The President of the Chicago Teachers Union or his
6 or her designee.

7 (8) The president of the association representing
8 principals in the schools of the district or his or her
9 designee.

10 (9) The student representative from the Chicago Board
11 of Education or her or his designee.

12 (d) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
13 appoint one of the appointed House members as a co-chairperson
14 of the Chicago Educational Governance Task Force. The President
15 of the Senate shall appoint one of the appointed Senate members
16 as a co-chairperson of the Chicago Educational Governance Task
17 Force. Members appointed by the legislative leaders shall be
18 appointed for the duration of the Chicago Educational
19 Governance Task Force. In the event of a vacancy, the
20 appointment to fill the vacancy shall be made by the
21 legislative leader of the same chamber and party as the leader
22 who made the original appointment.

23 (e) The members of the Task Force shall serve on a pro bono
24 basis. These members shall aid in the gathering of pertinent
25 information on the impact of various school governance
26 structures, including without limitation an elected

1 representative school board and mayoral control, as well as
2 gathering and analyzing data about the district's current
3 governance structure.

4 (f) The Task Force shall report its recommendation as to
5 which governance structure is best designed to serve the
6 students of the City of Chicago to the General Assembly on or
7 before May 30, 2013.