

One Hundred Fourth Legislature - Second Session - 2016

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB959

Chairperson: Senator Kate Sullivan

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: February 09, 2016

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 959 was introduced on behalf of the Governor to further his goal of providing property tax relief. The proposal provides controlled growth for education entities to more closely align with the financial circumstances of the state's taxpayers by reducing the growth in property tax burdens and enhancing local accountability.

The calculation of budget authority for school districts would be simplified to more accurately reflect the base limitation rate of 2.5%, while formula need stabilization in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act would be modified to curb growth. Both unused budget authority and growth in budgeted reserves would be restrained. The revenue limitations for educational service units would also be modified to restrict an alternative calculation. Additionally, levy exceptions that do not require voter approval for future capital projects would be removed for both school districts and community colleges.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Kate Sullivan