

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

**Department of Education
Educator Advancement Council and Regional Educator Networks Report**

On February 11th, the Education Subcommittee recommended acknowledging receipt of a report from the Department of Education on implementation of the Educator Advancement Council and the Regional Educator Networks and their programs.

The primary budget bill for the Department of Education included a budget note instructing the agency to report on the progress made in implementing the governance and programs of the Educator Advancement Council and their local partner Regional Educator Networks (or RENS). These new entities are responsible for funding and coordinating the professional development activities for K-12 educators. There are ten RENS across the state hosted by an Education Service District. Almost \$38 million from a carve-out of the State School Fund is available for this function, most of which will be distributed to the RENS through a formula.

The report summarizes the activities of the Educator Advancement Council and the RENS to date. For the Council, all four positions have been filled and the staff is working closely with the RENS in their organizational phase. All but one of the RENS has met more than once and it is expected that their plans will be completed later this spring on how they will spend the distributed funding. Given the timing of the plans and where the RENS are at this point, it is likely that not all the funds allocated for distribution will be spent during this biennium.

The Education Subcommittee recommends approval.