

HB 320 -- LAPSE OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS (Muschany)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Elementary and Secondary Education

This bill creates a mechanism to prevent a school district from moving back and forth between unaccredited and provisionally accredited status. If a school district that has been classified as unaccredited within the past five years and has become provisionally accredited should lose its provisional accreditation, it will lapse on June 30 or at a later date determined by the State Board of Education.

Changes are also made to the required hearing on the plans for continuing the educational process after lapse, which must be held at least 60 days before the district lapses. A special administrative board, which may be appointed by the state board to monitor an unaccredited district, is also given standing to enjoin school board actions that might result in wastage of assets. The state board is given the option of permitting a lapsed district to continue to operate under its existing governance structure pursuant to terms and conditions the board establishes. A prohibition on attaching a lapsed district with more than 5,000 pupils to another district without the approval of the board of the receiving school district is removed.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.